

# SELVS SEPV

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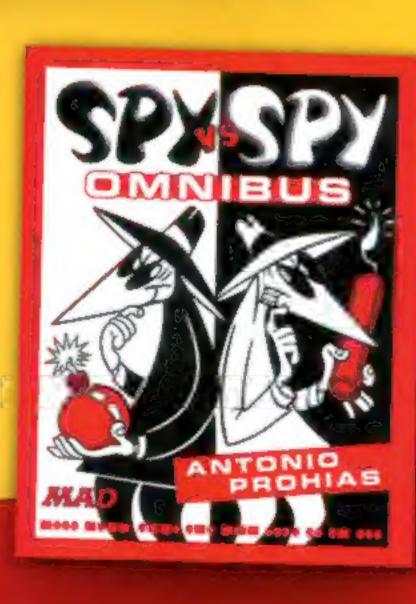


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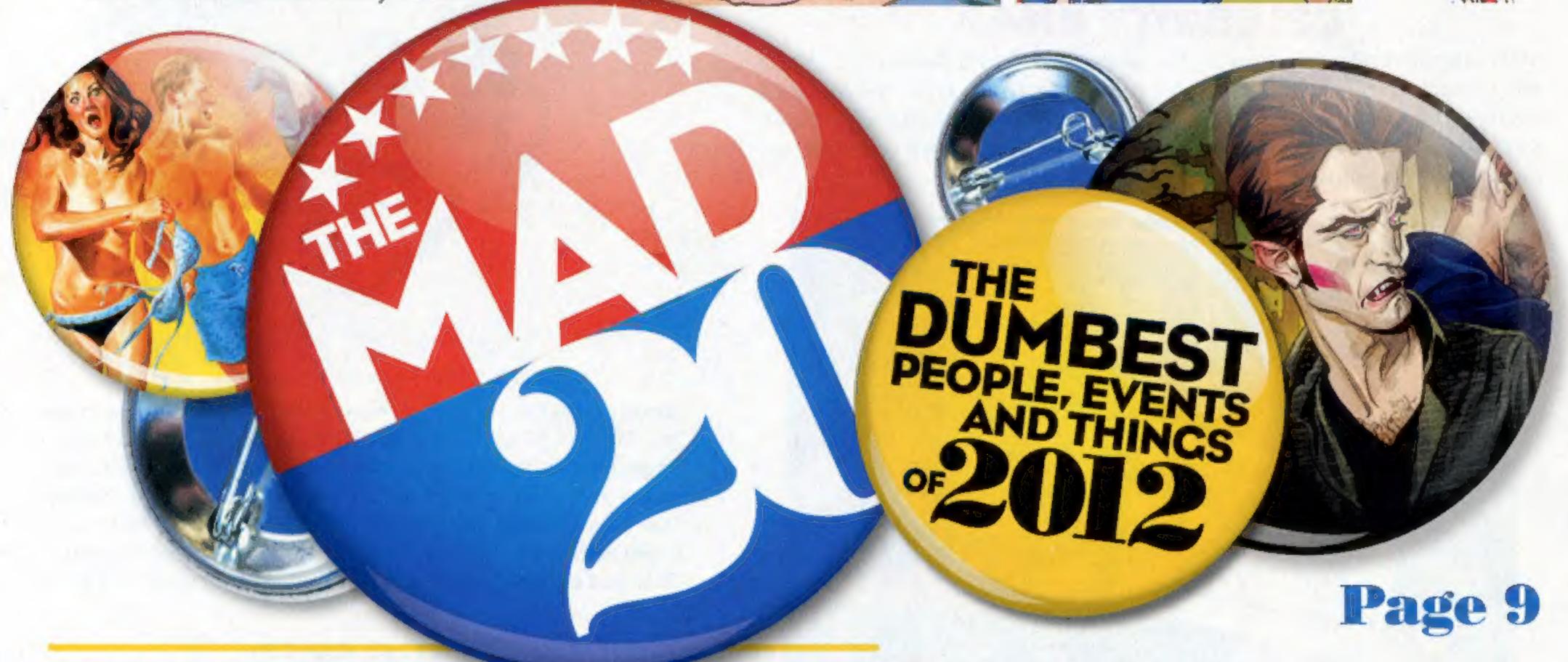


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### MARGINAL THINKING DEPARTMENT

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**COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON** 

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## Letters and Tomatoes

### **READING BETWEEN THE LIES**

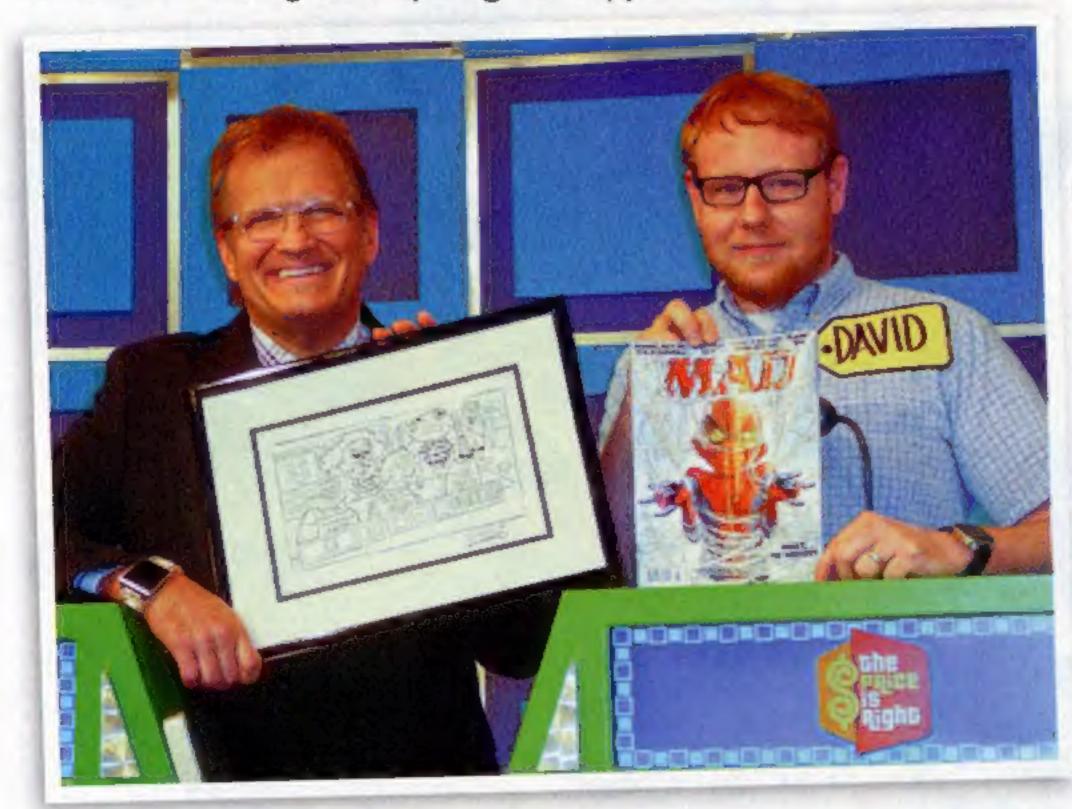
My mom thinks MAD is a waste of time, but I don't. She thinks MAD is inappropriate, so I have to buy them secretly. What should I do?

Max Brinkerhoff • Tucson, AZ

Brinkerhoff of Insanity — By all means, keep up the subterfuge and continue to defy your mother's wishes, reading MAD in secret. And then definitely write in to that magazine and have them publish a letter in which you admit your crimes. And, oh yeah, for having your letter published, you're going to get a whole bunch of free gifts (see Reader Alert). So, good luck explaining that giant box when it arrives in the mail, Brinky! There's no such thing as the perfect crime! Better start thinking about your getaway now — your mama is gonna be cheesed! —Ed.

### **CELEBRITY SNAP**

MAD artist/writer/game show audience member David DeGrand snagged this celebrity snap of *The Price is Right* host Drew Carey with the art David did for his article about *The Price is Right*! Now that's some synergy! David, if we were you, we'd do some art about Kate Upton and see if you could get this kind of celebrity meet-up magic to happen twice!



## MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATIONTM

I'm really depressed because I have my big 4-0 coming up and I get a sinking feeling that it might be time to FINALLY grow up and stop reading MAD. After 30-plus years of enjoying the finest in "office" reading material (yes, I mean the bathroom!), I think I'm going to switch to some grown-up rag like Forbes or Bloomberg or something. But first, a MAD-themed 40th birthday party to say "Sayonara!" Can you please provide me the funds for this Alfred-themed bash, or how about at least a plaque for all those years of wasted youth?

### Frank Kwiatkowski • Indianapolis, IN

All Kwiatkowski on the Western Front — So, let us get this straight...you want us to pay for a party...to celebrate the fact that you will no longer be buying our magazine? That sounds like the business plan of someone who's never read Forbes or Bloomberg...but who has done plenty of "spreadsheets" at his "desk" (yes, we mean "pooping" in your "toilet"!) —Ed.

### ALFRED SIGHTING

I'm 11 years old and am a big fan of your publication and so is my dad, from the old days! Anyways, included is a picture of Alfred E. Neuman. My Dad was doing an historic building renovation of a 1931 filling station in Charlottesville, Virginia and the image was stenciled on one of the walls along with soot and grease. I imagine it's from the 1950s, but now the property has been converted into a restaurant called Historic Fry's Spring Station, which is located at the gates of the University of Virginia. The building is beautiful and the ghost of Alfred E. Neuman now lives on!

Ellis Hindermann • Roanoke, VA



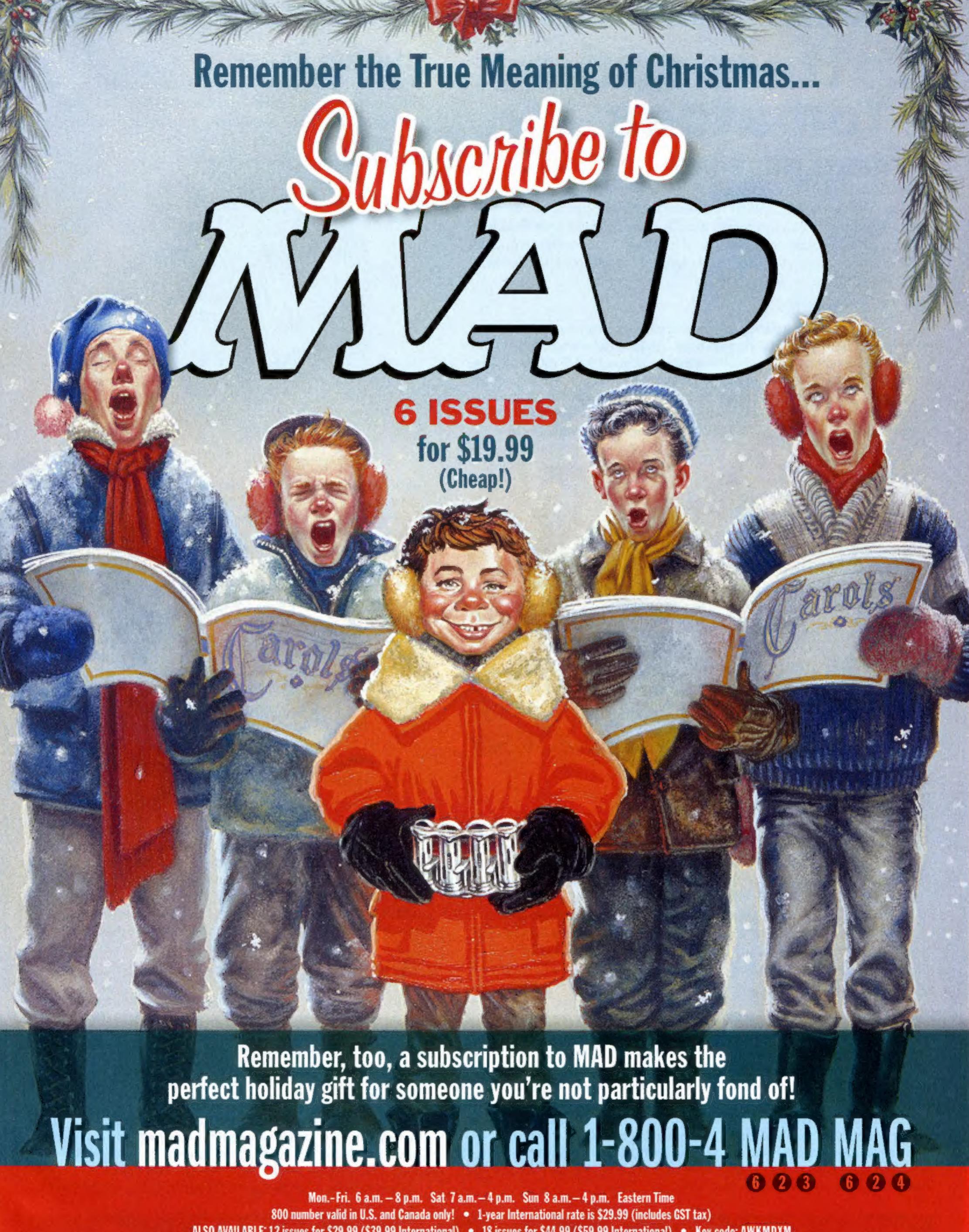
Hindergarten Cop — My God, man — that's no stencil! That image is made OUT OF soot and grease!!! Much like the image of the Virgin Mary burnt into a piece of toast, this Alfred face is a miraculous and haunting appearance! No doubt, Historic Fry's Spring Station will soon be overrun with glassy-eyed fanatic MAD pilgrims, eager to bathe in the presence of his eternal stupidity. Or to just eat chicken wings. Either way, exciting times! —Ed.

## A SHOT TO THE SHED

I am 61 and a longtime reader of MAD. Some of my older MADs, from the 1960s, were only 25 cents and I reread them from time to time (in my shed, when no one is around). Perhaps in a future issue (say #525) you could release a 25 cent black and white issue of MAD, just like old times. Your younger readers would know what it was like to buy a great MAD magazine for only a quarter! Of course, you would have to charge \$11.72 for issue #526 to make up for lost revenue. Don't worry, MAD readers won't even notice it.

### Larry Rowe • Troy, IL

Little Rowe Peep — What other bizarre and outdated ideas do you come up with in that shed of yours? "Maybe Studebaker could come out with a four-hundred-dollar sedan!" "Maybe Nehi should come out with a nickel bottle of Blue Raspberry pop!" "Mayhaps the Kansas City Athletics will let me see a ballgame for one dollar and five cents!" The point we're making is: that shed clearly isn't properly ventilated. Stop stripping furniture in there, you nut-bagel! —Ed.



## Letters and Tomatoes

### ALFRED E. NUDE-MEN

I know I'm not an 11-year-old boy, but maybe you'll print my letter anyway. Your spoof of *Twilight* made me shoot hot coffee out of my nose — and that's a compliment, kids. And by the way, that Tom Richmond friend of yours sure is a cutie. This 40-year-old writer would let him draw her cartoon any day of the week. If you know what I mean (wink wink, nudge nudge).

Ann Witt • Simsbury, CT

Witt o' Honey — Congratulations on getting your letter printed! It's not that we only print letters from 11-year-old boys...it's just that we tend NOT to print letters from inappropriately-sexual 40-year-old women! But if you really have a thing for MAD artists, be sure to pick up our erotic "Men of MAD" calendar — featuring steamy pictorials of our hunkiest cartoonists and illustrators! Did someone say, "John Caldwell splayed across a drafting table with a .003 Micron pen clutched between his teeth"? No? Nobody? Oh well... —Ed.

### **ALFRED IN THE LOUVRE**

Joseph Walter Hasse sent us this picture via Facebook of him, our Alfred E. Lisa and the REAL Mona Lisa. We're not sure if this qualifies as a Celebrity Snap, but we're pretty sure it qualifies as a matter for the Louvre's security! Thanks for uniting low art and high art, Jojo!





### READING IS DETRIMENTAL

Hello, but enough small talk. I want to ask you at what age should children start reading MAD? My two sons, Francesco, age eight, and Carmelo, age five, both watch the MAD cartoon show and love it. I think I was around nine years old when I first started reading MAD, but that was back when we could still catch a glimpse of some cartoon nudity (the good old days). In my opinion, MAD is an essential component of growing up, right up there with learning to ride a bike and vaccinations. We can share my current subscription, so do not expect to make any extra money from this. What do you think?

John L. Miniello • Brewster, NY

Mini-me — Shakespeare once wrote, "The sins of the father are to be laid upon the children." And while we have no idea what that means, we do know that you read MAD at a young age — and judging from your letter, you grew up to be a scattered, near-lunatic adult who's wistfully nostalgic for the cartoon nudity of long ago. That being the case, we'd say you should probably NEVER let your children read MAD. It's not easy to be a cautionary tale, Johnny, but such is your lot in life. Don't you want Francesco and Carmelo to have a better life than you have? Be a good dad and shield them from your mistakes. On the other hand, if you decide to get your boys their own subscriptions, and we stand to make some money off all this, then we say the sooner they start reading, the better! —Ed.

### THE BIG EASEL

I am a big fan of your TV show and magazines! I have two of your older magazines. I decided to give Alfred some muscles. This is one of millions of my drawings. But it is not my best!

Josh Beach • Chesterfield, MO



Josh Hashanah — Thank you for your drawing of muscle-bound Alfred! We're not sure if this is what you intended, but your illustration is an eloquent argument against the dangers of steroid use. Whereas once, Alfred was a healthy, happy individual, he now clearly suffers from the devastating side effects of steroid abuse: Chronic Cross-eyed Nips (CCN), Lumpy Ankle Syndrome and, of course, Rake-Toes. Thank you for shining a light on this troubling national scourge. —Ed.

### **FUNDRAISING HELL**

For P.E. at my junior high school, we're doing a fundraiser by selling magazines. I looked at the list of magazines and MAD wasn't one of them! I was super upset so I asked the fundraiser guy why this amazing magazine wasn't going to be sold. The guy said, "Some parents don't find it appropriate." I was dumbfounded. What do you think of this situation?

Annie Pierce • Hillsboro, MO

War & Pierce — We know just the fundraiser guy you're talking about! That crumb-bum has been a thorn in our side for years now! What do we think of this situation? We're upset, but, frankly, not dumbfounded. Gobsmacked? Maybe. Thunderstruck? Oh, most certainly! Hurt-smashed? That's not a thing...but, yes, a little bit! At the very least, we take solace in the fact that you raised money by selling our sister publication, Dirt Wheels! —Ed.

### HIRE EDUCATION

I am 12 and I have been reading your magazine since I was nine! It's fact that I am weird and a great artist, so when you need another weird person in the gang of idiots hit me up or I will send my teleporting turtle after you!

Gage Bryant • Jefferson City, MO

Steel Gage Match — We don't know about the "great artist" part, but we definitely believe you about being weird. As far as hiring you...how should we put this? Let's just say we'll put out some lettuce for when your teleporting turtle gets here. John L. Miniello — are you starting to understand what we're talking about?!? —Ed.

### LIKE MAD ON FACEBOOK!

We're on Facebook! You should go there and "Like" us. Go on...it'll make you feel good about the Internet!



### PHOTO FINISHED

In the Celebrity Snaps Section of your magazine, couldn't people technically just Photoshop celebrities into photos of them with your magazine?

Hunter Holeman-Brower • Duvall, WA

Brower Outtage — Good gravy — you're RIGHT! Do you think maybe we shouldn't have given that free subscription to that 12-year-old kid who sent in a picture of himself and Charlie Chaplin... posing on the surface of the moon?!? Oh, and nice try with that picture of "Drew Carey," David DeGrand! Better luck next time, you rogue! —Ed.





### **READER ALERT**

If you had your letter published in this issue, we've got some great news for you! Are you sitting down? Seriously - you're gonna want to sit. Wait - what you're doing is more of a lean than a sit per se... Whatever! You'll be getting a whole bunch of preposterously great stuff! Stuff like...a Blu-ray Combo Pack of The Bourne Legacy (available Dec. 11) AND a special The Bourne Legacy USB car charger, courtesy of our buds at Universal Studios Home Entertainment; a copy of the book *Radioactive Man*, from our chums at Harper Design; Sesame Street: Old School Volume 3, from our pals at Warner Bros. Home Entertainment Group; Mars Attacks, from our amigos at Abrams ComicArts; a Blu-ray Combo Pack of Batman: The Dark Knight Returns, Part 1 thanks to our compatriots at Warner Home Video; and a copy of 007 Legends on either PS3 or Xbox 360, courtesy of our bros at Activision (DLC for Skyfall available now!) Winners, all of ya!



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Dan Didio, Co-Publisher, MAD, October 10, 2012

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**Contributing Artists And Writers** The Usual Gang of Idiots

## MAD #520 is on sale February 19!

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## THE FUNDALINI PAGES



## TITLES MONICA LEWINSKY CAN'T USE FOR HER UPCOMING TELL-ALL BOOK



## Rejected Fortune Cookies



## **Eckstein Marks the Spot!**



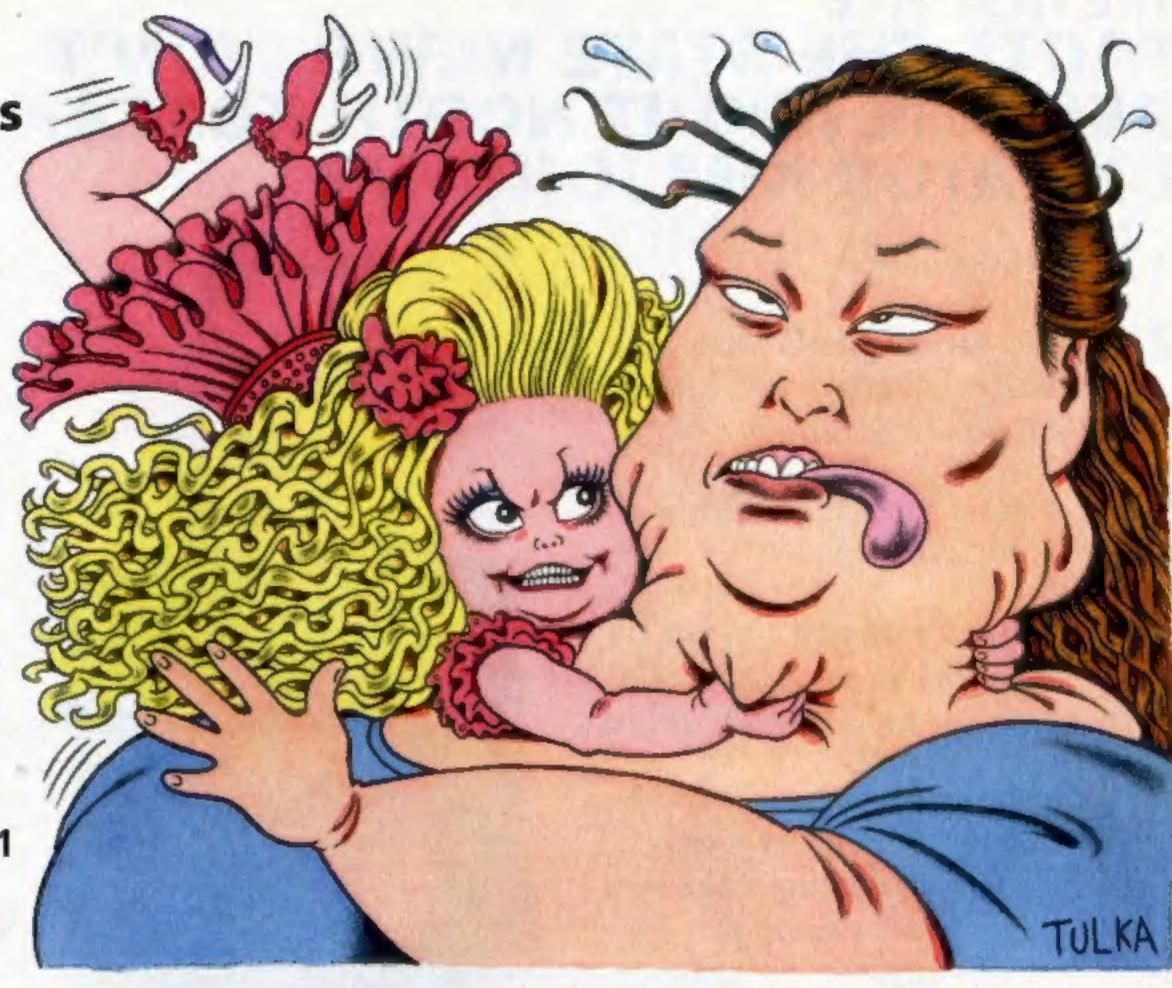
Writer and Artist:

**Bob Eckstein** 

Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds
HONEY BOO BOO'S
MOTHER, JUNE SHANNON

- Suffocates on fifth neck......1:1

- Mauled while fighting a bear over a raccoon carcass......12:1
- Choked by a washed-up, has-been 9-year-old Honey
  Boo Boo who realized her mother ruined her life......25:1
- Plane crash while on her way to Esquire's
   "Sexiest Woman Alive" presentation dinner......600,000:1



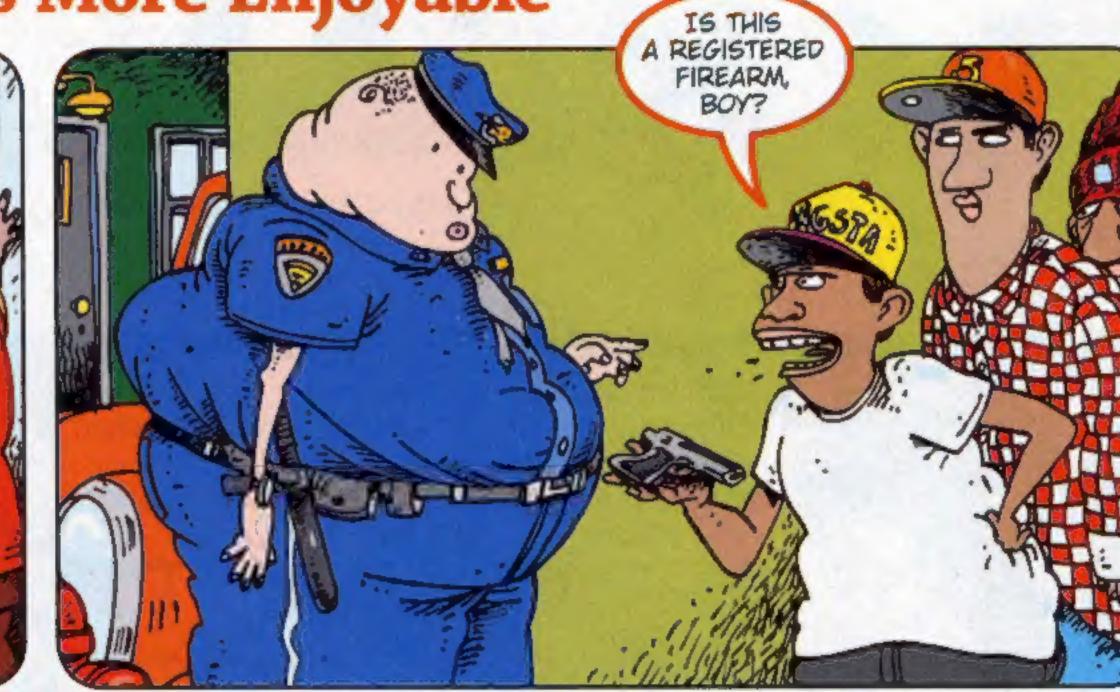
Artist: Rick Tulk

Ways To Make Stop-And-Frisk Encounters More Enjoyable

Ways To Make Stop-And-Frisk Encounters More Enjoyable

Encounters More Enjoyable

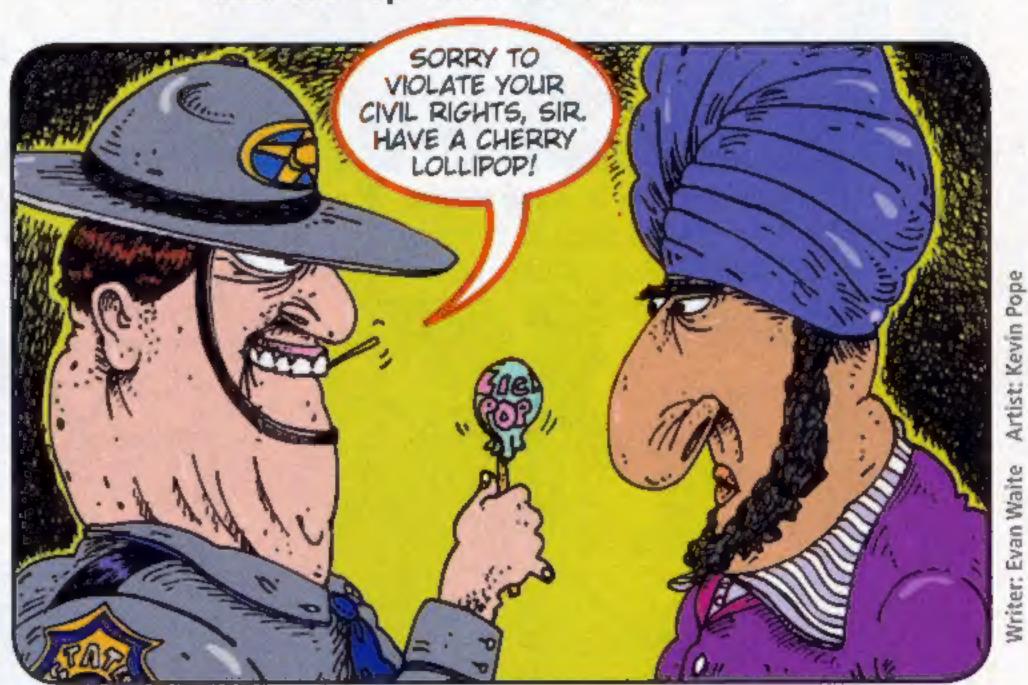
Require cops to offer compliments during pat-downs.



If nothing's found, the "suspect" gets to frisk the cop when he's done.



Transform the procedure into a memorable bonding experience by frisking entire families together.



To lighten the mood after a search, law-enforcement officials must offer the searchee a tasty treat.

## THE FUNDALINI PAGES

## THE FAST FIVE FACTS THE STATE NEWS WON'T RELEASE ABOUT NORTH KOREAN DICTATOR KIM JONG-UN

## Has a thing for Asian girls.

2 Built his garden gazebo from scratch and swears it's not crooked, it's just the way you're standing.

3 Hates America, but would still totally do Sarah Palin.

4 He's worked hard to go on lots of public outings to show the world dictator in charge.

5 Personally executed the guard Twilight book for him.



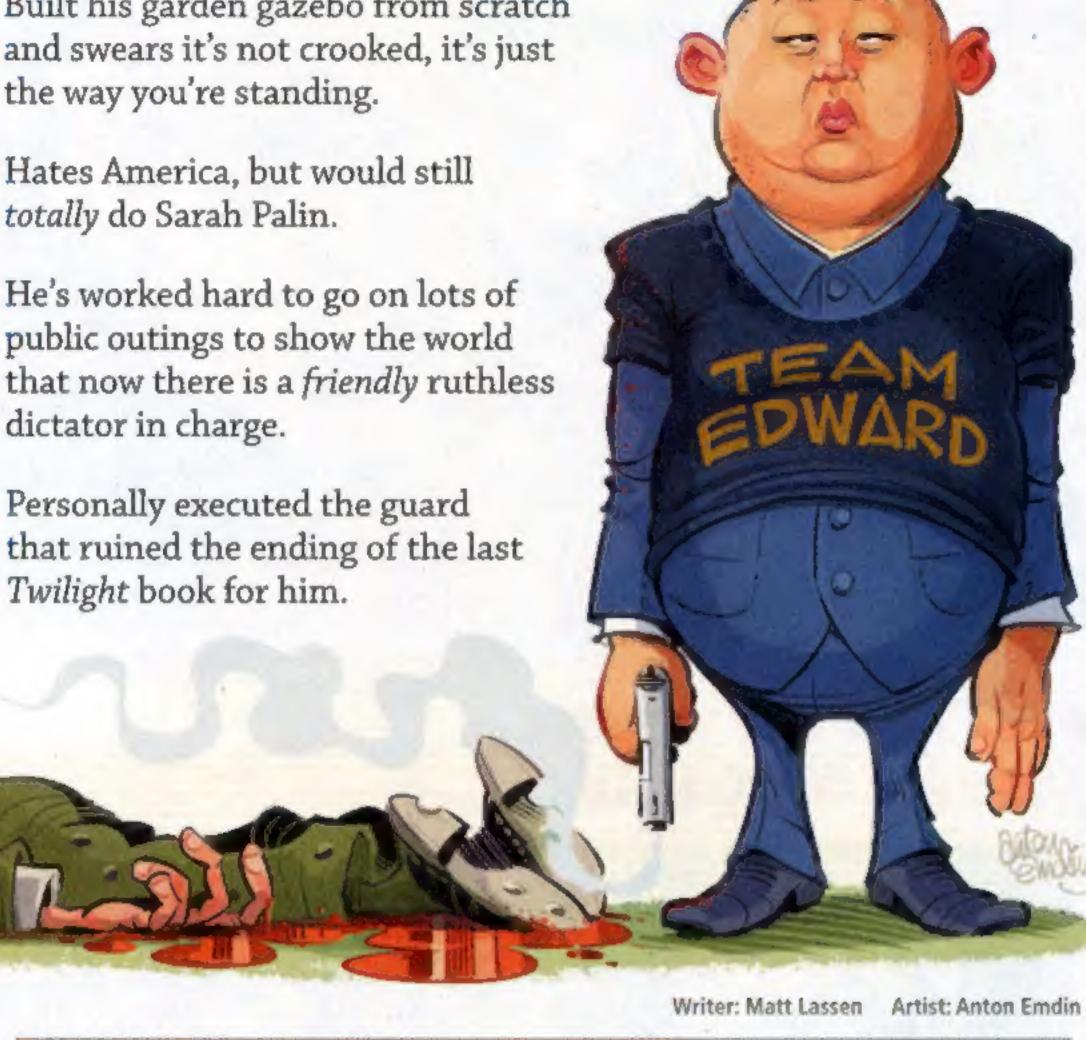


Photo: Lucie Lang | Dreamstime.com

### A Walk in the Parkhurst

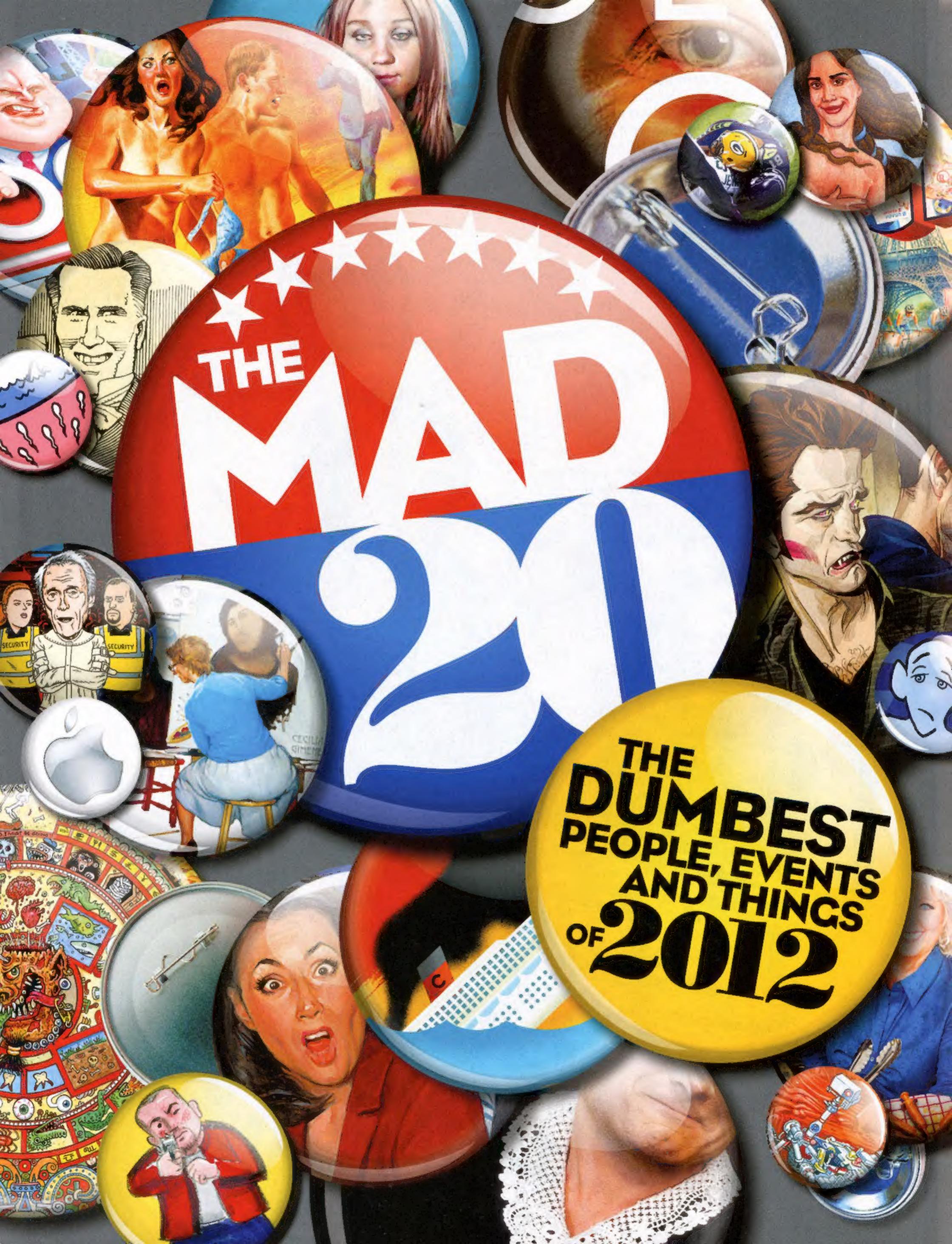


"Another idiot found dead between the window and the screen."



## BITTERMAN





## WOMAN "RESTORES" RELIGIOUS FRESCO

### PAINT MISBEHAVIN'

When a 19th-century fresco of Jesus Christ in Spain's Sanctuary of Mercy Church was recently found to be flaking, 80-year-old parishioner



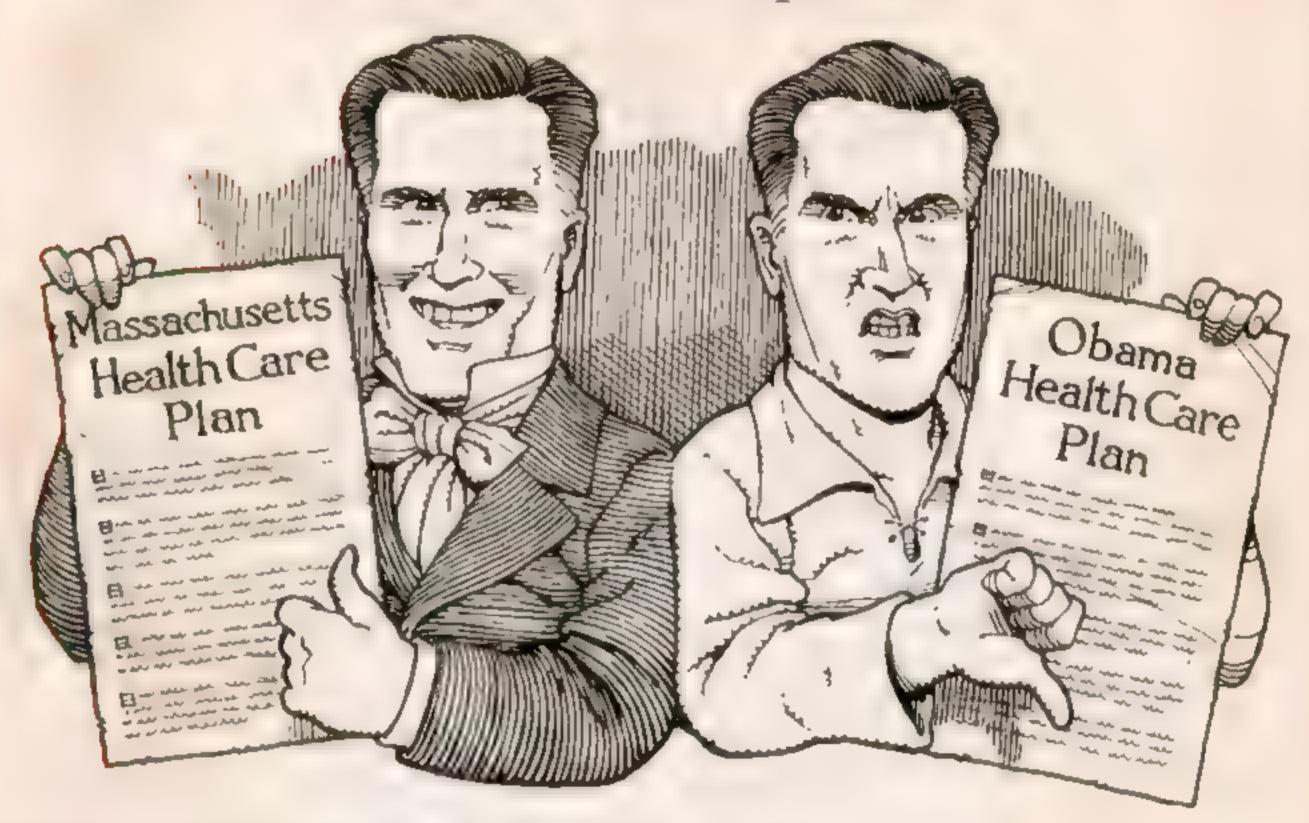
## What can on important is than a coke-

## THE NATION

What can one say (and then retract) about Mitt Romney that he hasn't already said (and then retracted) about himself? There's not a single important issue that he hasn't been for and then against, or against and then for, or both, or neither, or whatever. Mitt's flipped and flopped more than a coke-addicted porpoise. All told, it's as if there is more than one of him, which, if you ask us, would make for a classic, tragic story.

## A TALE OF TWO MITTIES

Book the First, Chapter One



He was the best of Mitt, he was the worst of Mitt,

He championed Romneycare, he demonized Obamacare,

He was a Massachusetts moderate, he ran in the primaries as a "severe conservative,"

He publicly said he would represent 100% of Americans, he privately said he didn't care about 47% of Americans,

He was a governor of vision, he was a nominee blinded by ambition,

He supported a woman's right to abortion, he aborted that position for right-wing support,

He turned around the Winter Olympics, he wanted immigrants to turn around by self-deporting,

He acknowledged climate change before the political climate changed,

He was a man who believed that "money talks" but didn't believe he should talk about his own taxes,

He was a man who favored everything he once opposed and opposed everything he once favored.

He was a man of unswerving principles, who would say anything to get elected.

WRITER: STAN SINBERG ARTIST: RICK GEARY

BOOK PHOTO: NATTHAWUT PUNYOSÁENG I DREAMSTIME.COM

## PAPARAZZI STALK KATE MIDDLETON



Just like Princess Diana, tabloids can't seem to get enough of Prince William and Kate Middleton. And that means one thing: the paparazzi will do anything to photograph them. (We forget. How did this little dynamic work out for Diana?) Anyway, topiess shots of the Duchess wound up in the French tabloid Closer—despite Kate and William being on vacation in a private, secluded chateau a third of a mile away from any commoners, with or without cameras. We repeat PRIVATE it wasn't like Madonna shaking nemincovered nay-nays for anyonic and camera phone to shap To score shots of the royal lewels. It the sleazy photographer needed was a high powered lens.

## VILE PAPARAZZI CREATE THE ULTIMATE IN CREEPY VOYEURISM!



-- CLOSER MAGAZINE (FRANCE)

"LEGAL PROCEEDINGS FOR BREACH OF PRIVACY HAVE BEEN COMMENCED BY THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE."

-ROYAL FAMILY LAWYERS

starring

## KATE MIDDLETON · PRINCE WILLIAM

featuring A PHOTOGRAPHER WITH A ZOOM LENS HUDDLED IN A HEDGE A HALF-MILE AWAY

## RUSH LIMBAUCH'S SEXIST TIRADE ALL FLUKED UP

in 1996, Al Franken wrote a book called Rush Limbaugh is a Big, Fat Idiot. Turns out the book still lives up to its title, Back in February, Limbaugh became incensed over a federal government provision requiring healthcare plans to cover contraceptive pills for women. The right-wing gasbag immediately launched a days-long tirade against Sandra Fluke, a law student at Georgetown University, calling her a slut, prostitute and sex addict who wanted us to support her birth control "habit." Rushie soon began hemorrhaging sponsors and issued an apology as limp as one would expect from a four-times married, weather balloon-sized pundit, yet he wasn't fired, suspended or docked a penny of his purported \$28 million salary. When it comes to vile, sexist behavior, no one plays the game better than Limbaugh.



The Fast-Talking Treat-Women-As-Property Game

RUSH LIMBAUGHS MISO G

Experience the thrills, the excitement CHAUVINIST and yes, the rush that come from relegating half the population

to second-class status! Rush Limbaugh's Misogyny tums your favorite real estate trading game into a hate-filled exercise of male-centric bluster and excess wheel and deal in a world of sluts, femi-nazis and any other derogatory terms you can think of for women!

Collect properties and build defunded Planned Parenthood Clinics and Womens Dormitories/ Brothels (they're the same thing, after all!)

Fat Chance and Let's Look at Her Community Chest" cards enhance the game's "War Against Women" theme\_\_\_

**CUSTOM GAME TOKENS!** 



CONTRACEPTIVE PILL DISPENSER

INCOME

WOMAN.

COMMUNITY

CHEST

MATING







SEXIST

AT HEROK

**LOSE 25 MAJOR SPONSORS OVER** INSENSITIVE NU LUSS.

COLLECT

\$28 MILLION SALARY AS YOU PRAISE

Let's Look at Her Community Chest

OFFER THE OFFENDED AN ON-AIR, INSINCERE, NON-APOLOGY, APOLOGY — KEEP JOB.

**COLLECT MILLIONS** 

Fat Chance

**BY DRAGGING** SANDRA FLUKE INTO THE SPOTLIGHT, YOU'VE GIVEN A VOICE TO A HIGHLY EDUCATED, **WELL-SPOKEN YOUNG** WOMAN -

PAY \$500 FOR OXYCONTIN TO EASE THE PAIN

Let's Look at Her Community Chest

TAKE A RIDE ON THE TEA PARTY EXPRESS

PAY \$100 FOR SEXUALLY HARASSING THE FEMALE CONDUCTOR

LANCE ARMSTRONG DOPE AND CLORY

Once upon a time, cyclist Lance Armstrong was regarded as courageous, heroic and thoroughly amazing. After all, the guy came back from cancer to win seven Tour de France titles, win the affections of Sheryl Crow, Kate Hudson and (evw!) an Olsen twin, and make floppy yellow bracelets seem cool. But after this year's revelation that he was actually a dope-pushing, blood-tampering, weasel bastard, Armstrong was banned from racing, stripped of his sponsorships and titles and utterly disgraced. Depressingly, the once-great icon turned out to be yet another picture-postcard example of a lying, cheating fraud.





## BARACKOBAMA BLOWS FIRST DEBATE FAIL TO THE CHIEF

President Obama's first debate performance against Mitt Romney has been called lethargic, lackluster, disengaged, dreary, flat, full of resentment, embarrassing, God-awful, piss-poor and Dukakis-like. Frankly, we think it's been somewhat overrated. As we recall, The Oogieloves received somewhat more favorable reviews. Luckily for the President, his handlers intervened and administered some emergency care in the form of Debate First Aid, thereby saving him from political death on Election Day.

THE OBAMANEUVER

### SIGNS OF DEBATE CHOKING



The victim seems to be in a Xonax-induced stupor.



The victim does not bother to defend himself or attack his opponent.



The vietim mistakes "being polite" with "looking spineless."

### CONSEQUENCES OF DEBATE CHOKING





Cable-news pundits who are rooting for the victim suffer hysterical on-air panic attacks.

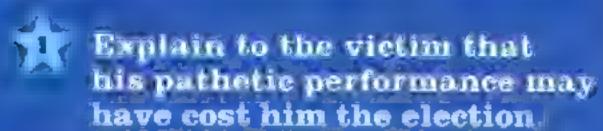


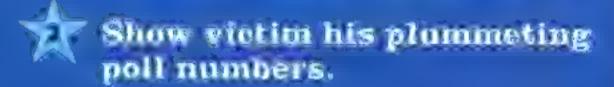




The victim's entire candidacy now rests on the debate performance of his unstable. gaffe-prone running mate.

### HOW TO HELP THE DEBATE CHOKING VICTIM





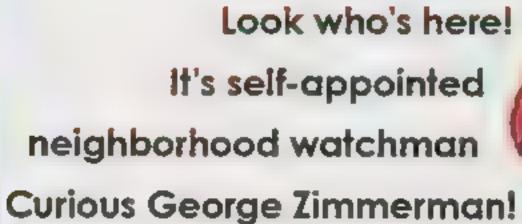




## GEORGE ZIMMERMAN MISUNDERSTAND YOUR GROUND

We don't know about you, but we feel much safer knowing there are men like George Zimmerman, a self-appointed neighborhood watch vigilante, patrolling our streets and protecting us from black kids wearing hoodies, or eating Skittles, or wearing hoodies and eating Skittles. Brave men like Zimmerman stand their ground against these...these ...citizens, even after the police insist that they back off. Yes, fearless men like Zimmerman risk their lives by brandishing loaded pistols and aiming them at, um, regular people. The bottom line: George Zimmerman tracked Trayvon Martin like an animal and ended up shooting and killing him because he didn't like his looks. We don't like Zimmerman's looks, but we wouldn't track him down and shoot him in cold blood. There's been enough of that already.



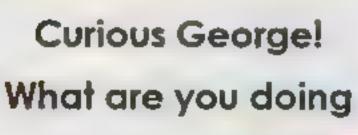




Stunds His Grown



Curious George!
Where is the Man
in the Yellow Hat?
And why are you
following the black
kid in the hoodie?
The 911 operator
told you to let the
police investigate!





Curious George! How can you claim self-defense when you recklessly initiated the confrontation?

Read how Curious George Zimmerman gets into trouble faster than you can say

"questionable interpretation of Florida law."

(Well, not too fast. He wasn't charged with a crime for 45 days!)

## CLINT EASTWOOD'S CONVENTION SPEECH Even though Clint Eastwood has starred in films opposite Morgan Freeman, Meryl Streep, John Malkovich and Gene Hackman, it turns out his most memorable co-star ever is a chair. At this year's Republican Convention, the 82-year-old Hollywood thespian did a 10-minute improvisation with the piece of furniture as if it was an invisible President Obama only he could see and hear. He criticized the "Presi-chair" for the war in Afghanistan (which Bush started) and for not closing the U.S. prison at Guantánamo (which the GOP didn't want done anyway). In any case as a doddering, delusional, bitter, out-of-touch, gun-loving white male long past his prime, specimo inaccuracies and untruths about a candida he was imagining out of thin air. Eastwood represented the Republican base just perfectly The GOP in Association with Bob's Discount Furniture presents EASTWOOD TWOOD SECURITY Telegraph of the annual contract of the contra War we see the STATE OF THE STATE can't believe I just watched Clint Eastwood turn into somebody's Drunk Uncle Harry..." - Star Jones 18

## AMANDA BYNES STEER AND PRESENT DANCER

Most child stars end up having a rough life. After so much success at an early age, by the time they reach adulthood their life is a train wreck, or in the case of Amanda Bynes, several car wrecks. The former Nickelodeon actress has been hell on wheels this year — driving under the influence, side-swiping a police car, and TWO hit and runs, all capped off with a charge of driving with a suspended license (a pretty impressive resume for a gal her age)! Often, the problem with out-of-control young stars is that they just don't know how to stop in Bynes' case, that's bad news for anyone else on the road.



The Complete Hit-and-Run, DUI, and Driving-While-Stoned Incidents

# Braking 56 Bau

HOLLYWOOD

WINNER

Most Pathetic Fall of a
Former Child Star Since
LINDSAY LOHAN!

Starring Amanda Bynes

ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER

## OCTOMOM DOES PORN NO NUDES IS COOD NUDES

Nadya Suleman has been in the news ever since she birthed nearly a little league team's worth of kids back in 2009. As it turns out, when you're out of work and living on public aid, it's not that easy to support 14 kids (she cranked out six kids before the octuplets). What's a girl to do? Well, you turn a problem (in this case, your hoo-ha) into a solution! Which is how Octomom wound up starring in a "self-pleasure" video for the aptly-named Wicked Entertainment. Still, the situation begs the question: what is the real dumb thing? Is it that Octomom got so colossally in over her head that she had to turn to porn...or is it that there are guys who will PAY to see a dilapidated, depressing exit tunnel that 14 kids plopped out of?



## NFL HIRES REPLACEMENT REFS ABSOLUTELY SCABULOUS

Get this: The NFL generates over \$9 billion a year in revenue. The average NFL team is worth \$1.1 billion. The average salary for an NFL player is \$1.9 million. And still, the misguided, greedy creeps who run the league locked out referees because the refs wanted to keep their pension benefits. So the NFL brought in replacement refs who screwed up call after call. Still, it wasn't until the clueless amateur refs blew a call that cost the Packers a game (and maybe a playoff spot) that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell managed to snap his head from between his buttocks and offer the real refs a fair deal. It was a big concession, because now the beleaguered NFL is only on pace to rake in a mere \$8.9999999999 billion.



## MADDENING REFLOCKDUTTE

Bas de

REF LOCKOUT.

Maddening Ref Lockout 13 puts YOU in the middle of all the confusing action: Bafflement on the field! Gross incompetence! Play in a pro football game as you've always dreamed — that is, if you dreamed of playing in a game decided by blatantly wrong calls made by amateur scab refs!





BJ3 Wiik



- Touchdown? Touchback? Timeout? Who knows? Experience the thrill of standing around on the 50-yard line doing nothing while the refs review the instant replay — and still botch the call!
- Authentic Replacement Ref Action! Fumbles are ruled touchdowns! Illegal career-ending hits to franchise quarterbacks are ignored! And every crucial call in the game's final minute is WRONG!
- Advanced Mode: Tweet as your favorite NFL player to express your utter disdain for Roger Goodell!
- Includes 28,000 potential plays and an infinite number of terrible calls and rule misapplications!

WRITER: DAVID SHAYNE PHOTO: AP/WIDEWORLD PHOTOS

21



In June Today Show co-nost Meredita was retired and was replaced by Ann Curry, Norost Immediately, there were reports of trouble on the set and a tack of chemistry between Lucry and ap-nost MattiLauer Their faster than you can say Roker ate the last donut again. The ratings tanked Ind Today was overtaken by Good Morning America NBC execs. It ways print to panic, immediately looked for a scapegoat and found one in Gurry, who was soon kicked on the show. Maybe the ratings whos was Curry's fault, or mayor it's less mat the once proud Today Show of NBC news has devolved into a tragedy miking, celebrity hype maintne and the audience is sick of a sylvanever my case viewers are fleeing the show ester than hairs are leaving Matt Lauer's head. It's like one of those bad Hollywood comedies that the Today Show is only to shall apply to shall do

## THEY BRING YOU THE REAL STORY IS BACKSTAGE



## THE LEGENDARY HUMILIATION OF ANN CURRY I

RATEDUR RATINGS DEBACLE

BASED ON HER AWKWARDLY-EMPATHETIC INTERVIEW STYLE UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE PROVIDED BY MATT LAUER AND AL ROKER

**NBCUniversal** 



## TODD AKIN THE BUILDING

Imagine if you were wheeled into an operating room for emergency heart surgery and discovered the surgical team consisted of Khloe Kardashian, The Situation, Charlie Sheen and Honey Boo Boo's mother. Cause for concern, right? Well, that's the feeling you get when you discover that the House Science Committee is controlled by a group of Republican Congresspersons who'd conclude that a vinegar and baking soda volcano school lab project erupts due to "God's will." The Science Committee has jurisdiction over NASA, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Science Foundation. Member Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) has suggested that countries might eliminate "the production of greenhouse gases" by cutting down their rainforests. They have so many other insane theories, it would take a journal to catalog their laughably outrageous ignorance.



# RTOLO



## APPLE MAPS TAKE THE WRONG WAY HOME

Over the last decade or so, Apple has become one of the world's richest companies, in part because of its consistent production of Terminator-perfect electronics, each more thrilling than the last. But in recent months, the ritual of The Apple Unveil has begun to seem a little shark-jumpy — and never more so than in October, when the new iPhone 5's most prominent feature was a mapping system that offered worse directions than the average drunken hobo. In shutting out Google Maps for a program that confused Cleveland with Mumbai, Apple Maps was Apple's biggest fiasco to date — leaving the company in the unfamiliar position of issuing apologies as it misdirected consumers' cash from their wallets to Apple's vault.



From Apple Headquarters Cupertino, California (2 miles from Austin, Texas via Apple Maps)

To Our Customers,

At Apple, we strive to make world-class products that deliver the best experience possible for our customers. This often results in the worst possible experience for our Foxconn workers, but that's for a whole other apology letter!

With the launch of our new Maps, we fell short of our goal — often, by thousands of miles! We are extremely sorry for the frustration this has caused, and for those of you still out on the road hopelessly lost in the middle of nowhere, we sincerely hope you reach your destination soon.

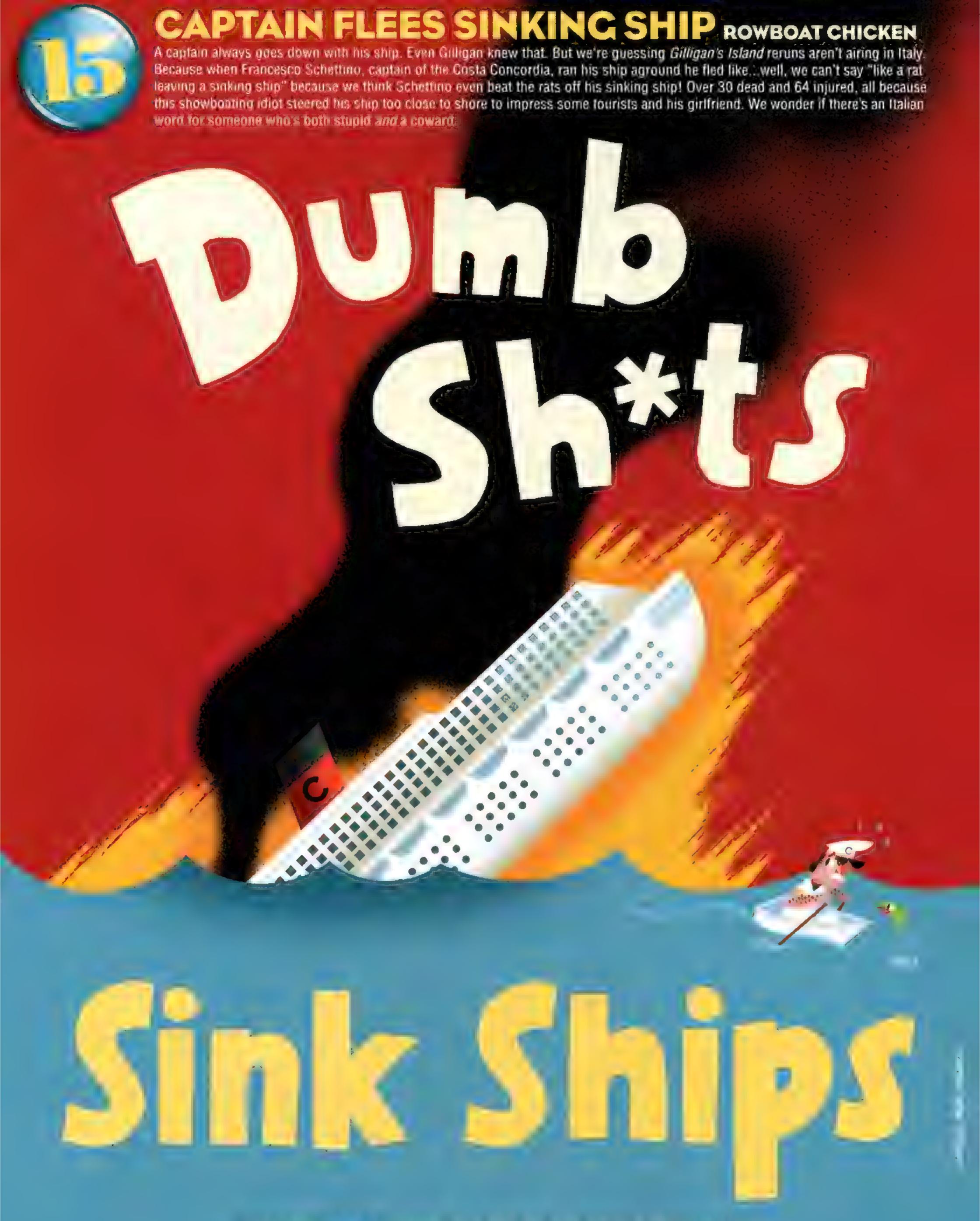
Maps launched with the first version of iOS, but we wanted to make it better. So we added turn-by-turn directions, voice integration, Flyover and vector-based maps. We figured all these cutting-edge technologies would cover up the fact that our directions are completely inaccurate, but like our maps themselves, we were off the mark.

There are more than 100 million IOS devices using the new Apple Maps. And of those 100-million+ devices, there are more than a dozen people who trust our maps. In just the first week, iOS users searched for nearly half a billion locations. We hope to get back to them with accurate location info sometime in the future. Meanwhile, the more our customers use our maps and the quicker they tell us where things really are, the better Maps will get for everyone!

While we're improving Maps, you can try alternatives. Stop by your local gas station and see if they still happen to have any of those little fold-up paper maps. They're fun, colorful and often free. Or visit your local Apple store and ask one of our Geniuses for directions. (Sneaking a peek at an Android phone would actually be your best bet.)

Everything we do at Apple is aimed at making our products the best in the world. But without Steve Jobs around anymore, we can aim a little lower. Yes, it seems this time we aimed a little too low. So in the future we promise to aim higher. That is, once we get Maps to tell us which direction that is.

Tim Cook





## FACEBOOK'S IPO FRIENDS WITHOUT BENEFITS

When it was announced that Facebook would be traded publicly on the stock market, excitement was high. It was the biggest IPO in tech history! It was the coming of another dotcom boom! And it was!!! (For the first few hours.) After opening at \$38 a share, the stock shot up as high as \$45...but quickly dropped and closed at just \$38.23. Okay, the first day was a disappointment — but that would soon change. Soon, it would be a disaster. The stock price kept falling — going as low as \$17.55 a share. Worse still, the company's lead underwriters, Morgan Stanley. JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs, were accused of inflating prices and ditching stocks while prices were high. (If you're shocked about that, maybe you should be MAD's Dumbest Person of the Year!) In the end, a lot of investors lost a lot of money. We're betting these people no longer consider Mark Zuckerberg a "Friend."

# TOUTDONIATE \$56 BILLON NVALUATION WITHOUT MAKING

the so-called net worth

twodollarsashare.co

WRITER: JEFF KRUSE

## PAULA DEEN HIDES DIABETES

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN AND INTO THE LIAR

Paula Deen rose to fame promoting a diet rich in fat, salt and sugar — and indeed, she got rich, but she also got Type 2 Diabetes. Now, you're probably thinking, "And in other news, the sun rose today," but that's not the whole story. Paula's potentially life-threatening condition didn't inspire her to renounce her obesity-causing diet. When she went public with her illness in January, we soon found out she was first diagnosed THREE years ago — a period during which she continued gleefully pushing her Fatty McLardass recipes on an unsuspecting public. Not only that, she set up a lucrative endorsement deal with a pharmaceutical company making Diabetes medication! So now she peddles both the sickness AND the cure — and that's a combo that would make anyone's wallet fat.

## Hey yall!

Just 'cause you're sufferin' from Diabetes doesn't mean your taste buds have to suffer with ya!

Diabetes can be delicious, y'all, thanks to...

## PAULA DEEN'S DEEP-FRIED INSULIN

Don't worry about losin' a foot you don't need it to sit at the table!

Listen up, y'all - the damage is done! Let's have some FUN! Each PAULA DEEN'S DEEP-FRIED INSULIN contains all the medicine you're cravin', plus a buncha other goodies! Like:

Egg yolks

A stick of butter

Heavy cream

Sour cream

Whipped cream

Another stick of butter

Cream cheese

Grated cheese

May'naise

Hot sauce

Chocolate shavin's

Hot oil

One more stick

of butter

Cake batter

Powdered sugar

One last stick of butter (just for tastin'!)

Breadin'

And just a pinch of salt



## PAULA DEEN'S DEEP-FRIED INSULIN

The medicine you need and the taste you want!

## It's cale Sor We

## THE MAYAN CALENDAR

It's baffling that people put so much weight and belief in the "Mayan Calendar," a circular stone block that would be extremely difficult to hang in your kitchen. "Experts" have determined that the calendar indicates the world will end on December 21, 2012. Even in a world filled with global climate change, earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes and Donald Trump, we find that hard to believe. Some say the Mayan Calendar doesn't show the world ending on December 21 — just the calendar ending. Others point out that another version of the calendar goes well past December 21. We're skeptical because nowhere on the stone block do the Mayans refer to "March Madness" or "Rocktober." Still, we've put off our Christmas shopping till December 22 — not because we believe the calendar, we just do that every year anyway.

CUC

# Things You Didn't Know About the Mayan Calendar

There was also a Mayan Calendar page-a-day version with humorous Doomsday prophecies and quotes.

Certain calendars contain mysterious reminders that it's time to order calendars for next millennium.

The so-called Long Count
Calendar was created during a
phase of history known as
"The Numerical Ignorance
Era," so take it with
a grain of salt.

Below December 21, there's a small symbol of the Earth exploding, instead of a moon phase symbol, which is how experts could pinpoint the end date.

The date for Administrative Professionals Day has remained largely unchanged through the centuries.

A SOUND DOWN BUNK.

- SUBGENIUS

The Jewish

Mayan calendar

corresponds almost

perfectly, though they
have the world ending on
sundown of the 20th.

The calendar can only be properly read using 3D glasses. That's how advanced the Mayans were.

Many believe the Mayan Calendar was created by Harold Camping's great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great grandfather.

The Mayans were the first culture to refer to Wednesday as "hump day."

One stone version was found not far from beautiful and mysterious Machu Picchu, a great travel destination any time of year. (This line brought to you by the Peruvian Tourism Council.)

Some calendars were unearthed alongside a sheet of tiny stickers reading "Birthday," "Doctor's Appointment," and "Virgin Sacrifice."

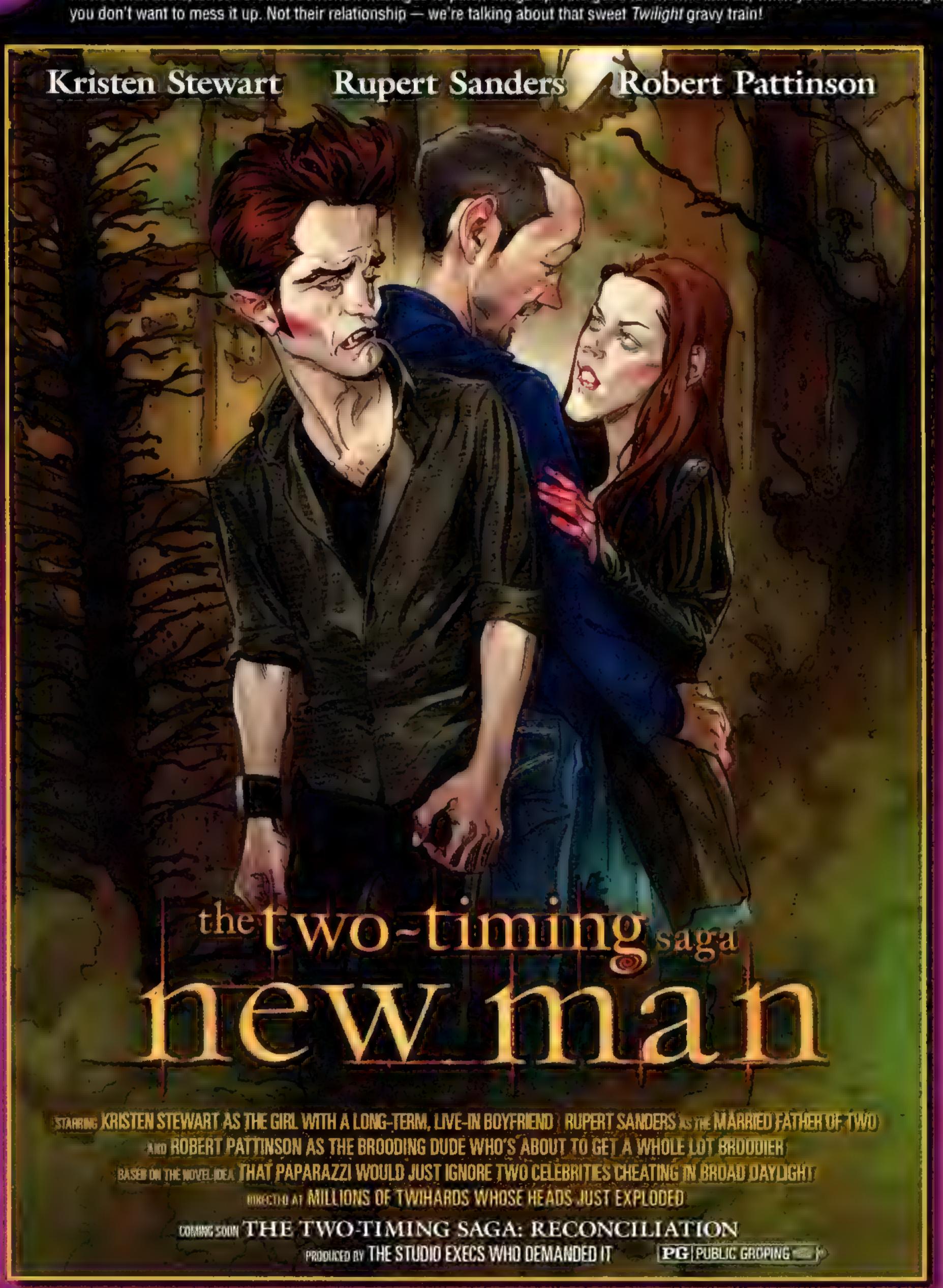
Mayan astronomers didn't account for leap days, meaning we'll all have to go through this apocalyptic idiocy again soon.

Archeologists estimate that up to 95% of calendars were freebies handed out by ancient insurance salesmen, and therefore thrown away.

The Mayans really concocted the whole thing as a practical joke on future historians.

## KRISTEN CHEATS ON ROB INTERLUDE WITH A VAMPIRE

Sometimes mediocre, soulless life imitates mediocre, soulless art. How else to explain the real-life Bella and Edward — Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson — getting into a *Twilight*-worthy love triangle? The two had been dating off-screen for years and were even living together... when K-Stew was photographed inhaling the face of her *Snow White and the Huntsman* director Rupert Sanders (on the bright side, it was only the second-worst thing they had done together this year). The two stars spent the next few weeks looking slightly more mopey and lifeless than usual, before Stewart somehow managed to patch things up. And good for them! After all, when you have something that good, you don't want to mess it up. Not their relationship — we're talking about that sweet *Twilight* gravy train!

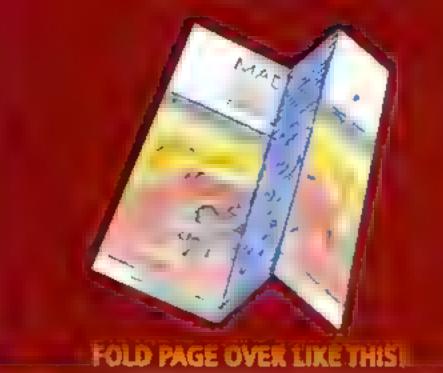


WHAT DRY
AND CRACCY
SURFACE DID THE
WORLD CET A
CLOSE-UP LOOK AT
THIS YEAR?



## HERE WE GO WITH A SPECIAL EDITION OF COLUMN OF COLUMN

No matter how jaded we get, it's good to know that we can still be amazed by otherworldly sights! And this year offered a vision that was unlike anything we had ever seen on Earth before. What we saw was so bizarre and hauntingly alien, it made us question the entire universe and our place in it. To find out what surface shocked and captivated us all, fold page in as shown.



A

**FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT** 

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



THIS RECENT, ASTONISHING EVENT IS MORE THAN MOMENTOUS. IT'S A STUPEFYING NEWS STORY. IT'S FACTUALLY STUNNING. ONLY ONCE IN A LIFETIME CAN WE EXPERIENCE SUCH A PHENOMENON



WHAT DRY
AND CRACCY
SURFACE DID THE
WORLD GET A
CLOSE-UP LOOK AT
THIS YEAR?





TAN MOM'S FACE



When Obamacare became law, outraged Republicans took comfort in knowing that the Supreme Court would eventually declare it unconstitutional. After all, they'd spent 30 years stacking the Court with young right-wing ideologues like Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, who would forever vote in lock-step with their ultra right-wing agenda. It never occurred to them that one of their chosen ones could conceivably think for himself and vote to uphold the President's dreaded healthcare reform. But that's what happened! And just like that, Chief Justice John Roberts established himself as the only Judge on the Court who's proven that he doesn't represent a political party. Republicans predictably turned on their Golden Boy, who soon became the target of more conservative media vitriol than Bill Maher, Michael Moore and Al Sharpton combined!

## JUDICIAL BETRAYAL HAS A NEW FACE!

JOHN ROBERTS IS ...

"With (the) Obamacare ruling,
I feel like I just lost two great friends:
America and Justice Roberts."

- Rep. Jack Kingston (R-Georgia)

"Roberts' epilepsy meds' 'troubling side effects' include 'mental slowing and forgetfulness."

- right-wing radio host Bryan Fischer

"John Roberts, Chickensh\*t."

-Ann Coulter



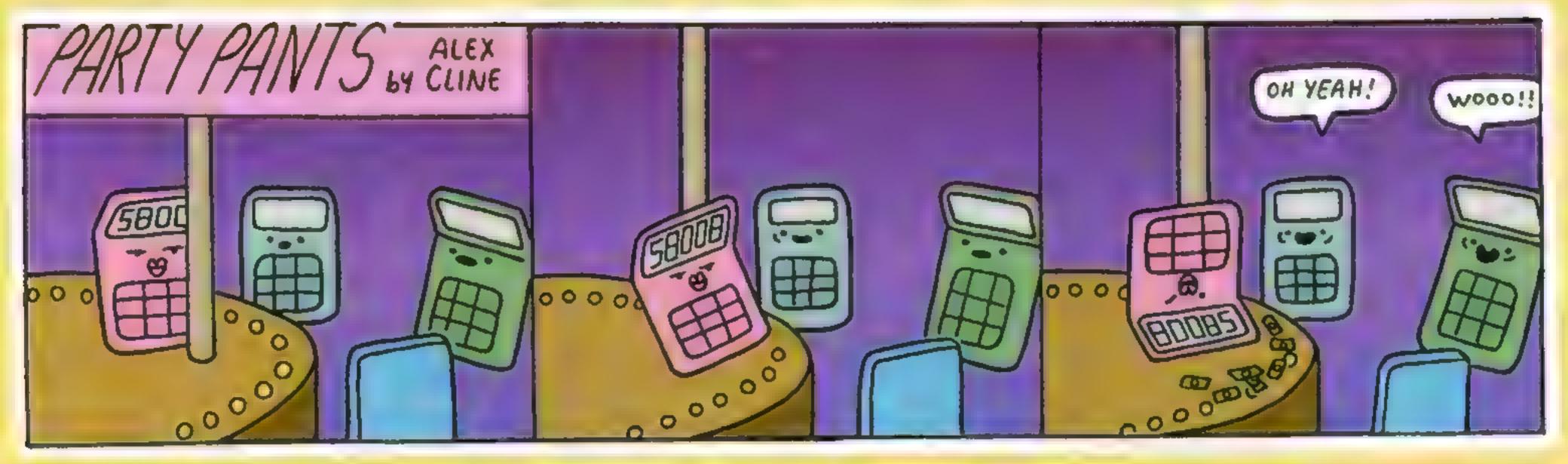
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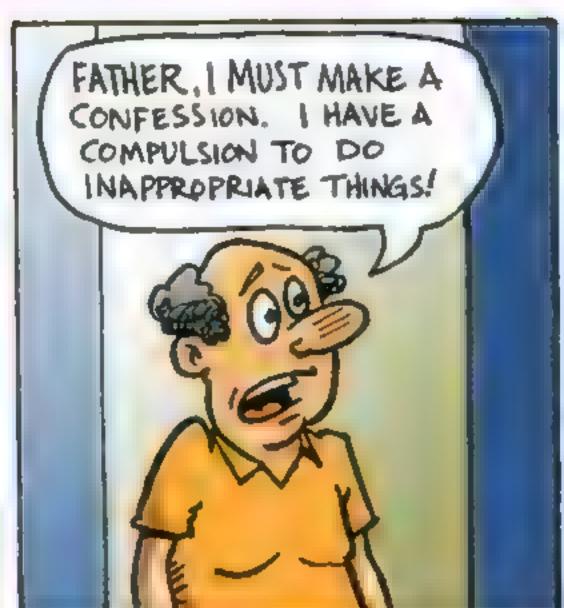
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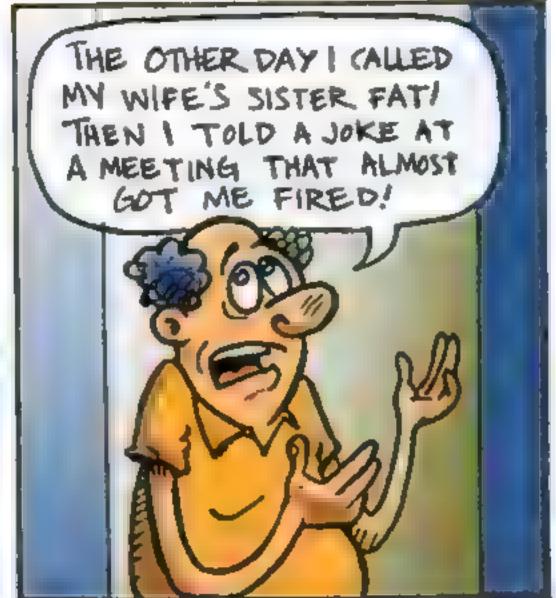
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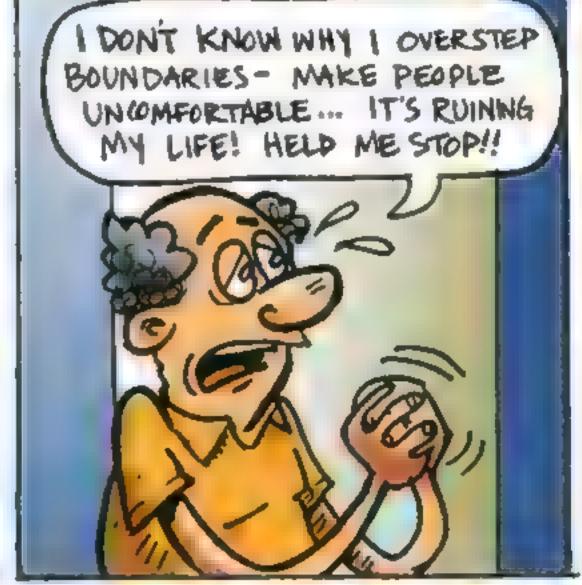




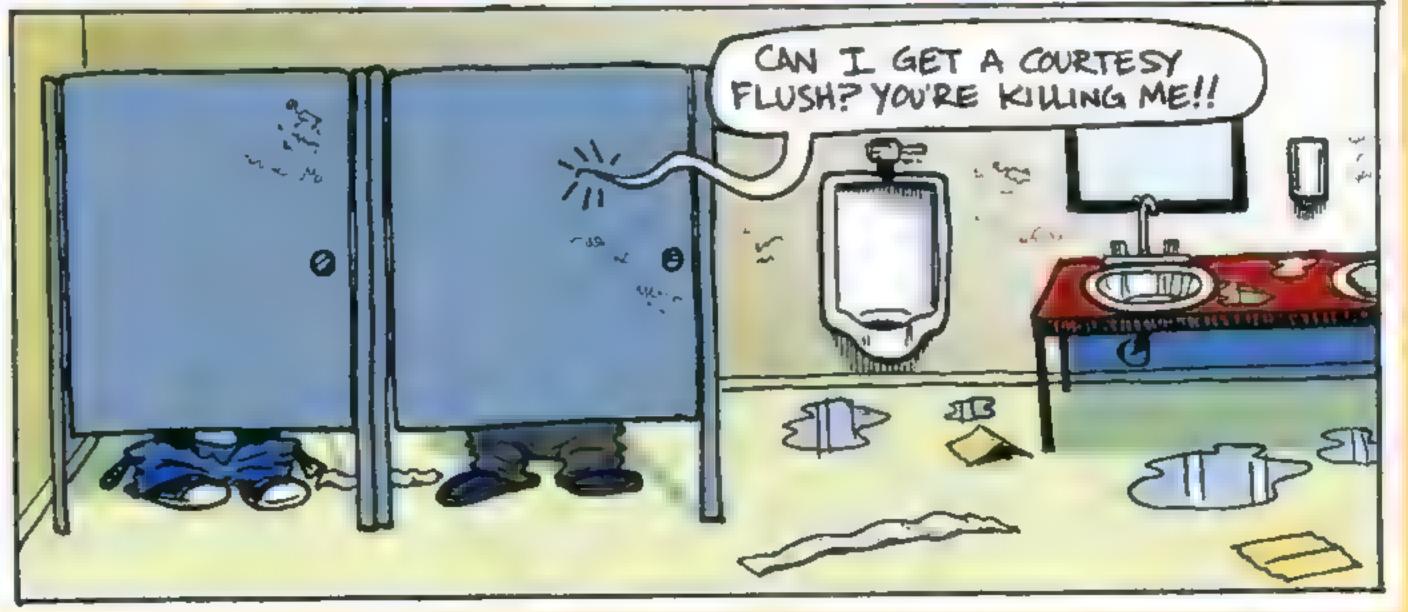




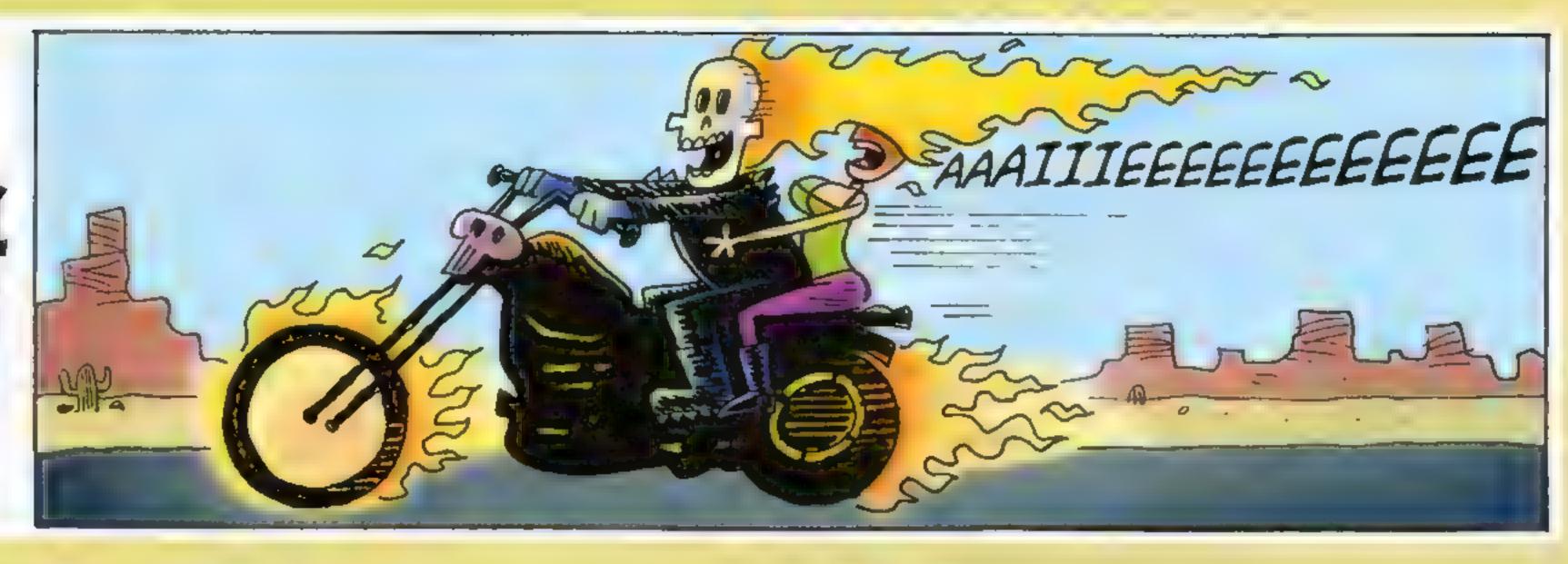








## THE DORK SIDE



SCOTT NICK

I'M AFRAID IT'S VERY SERIOUS

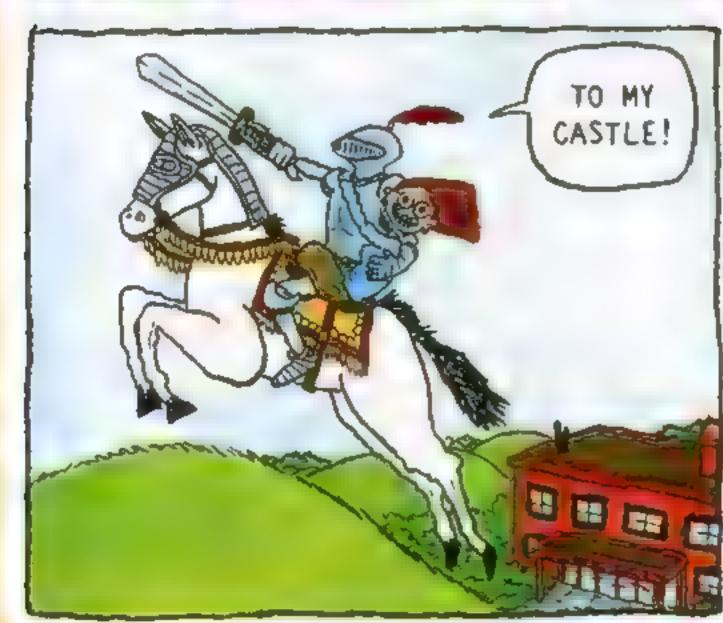
























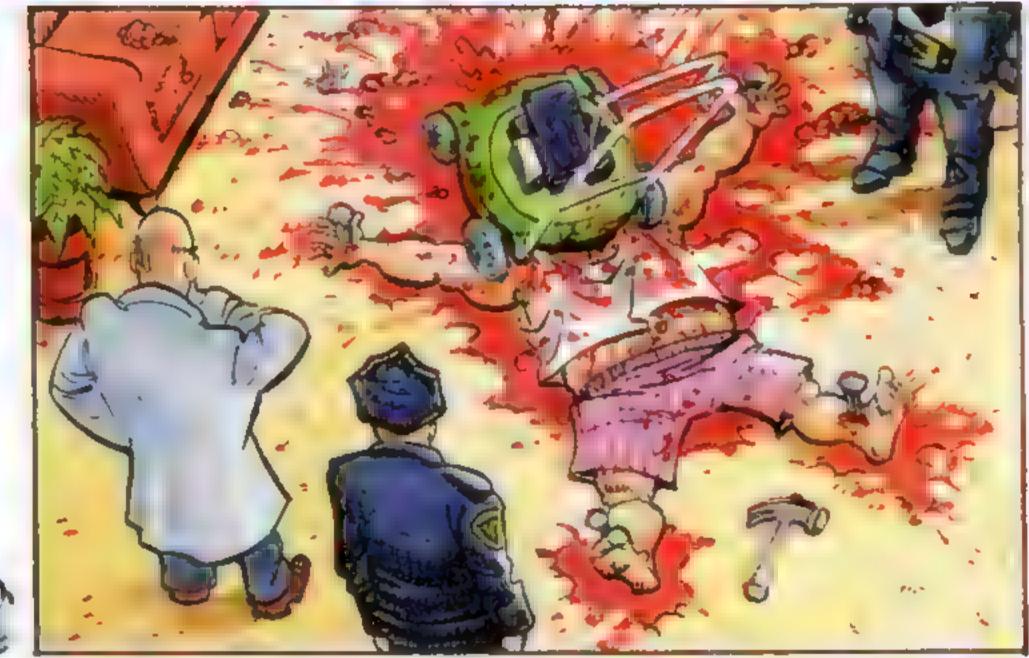








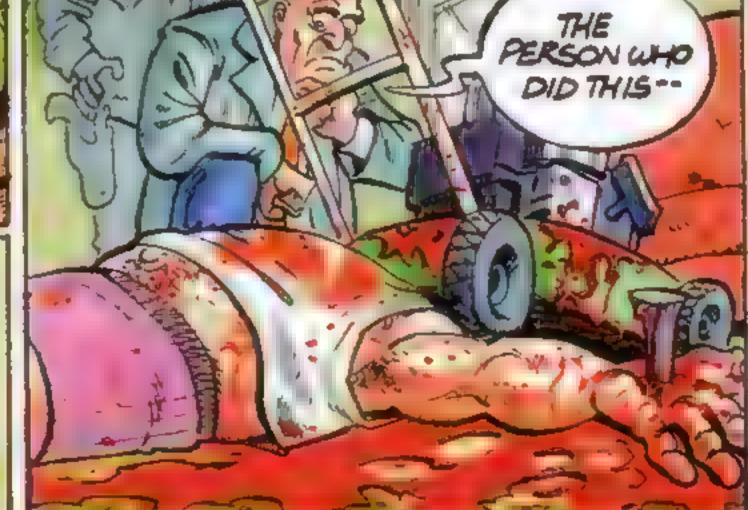








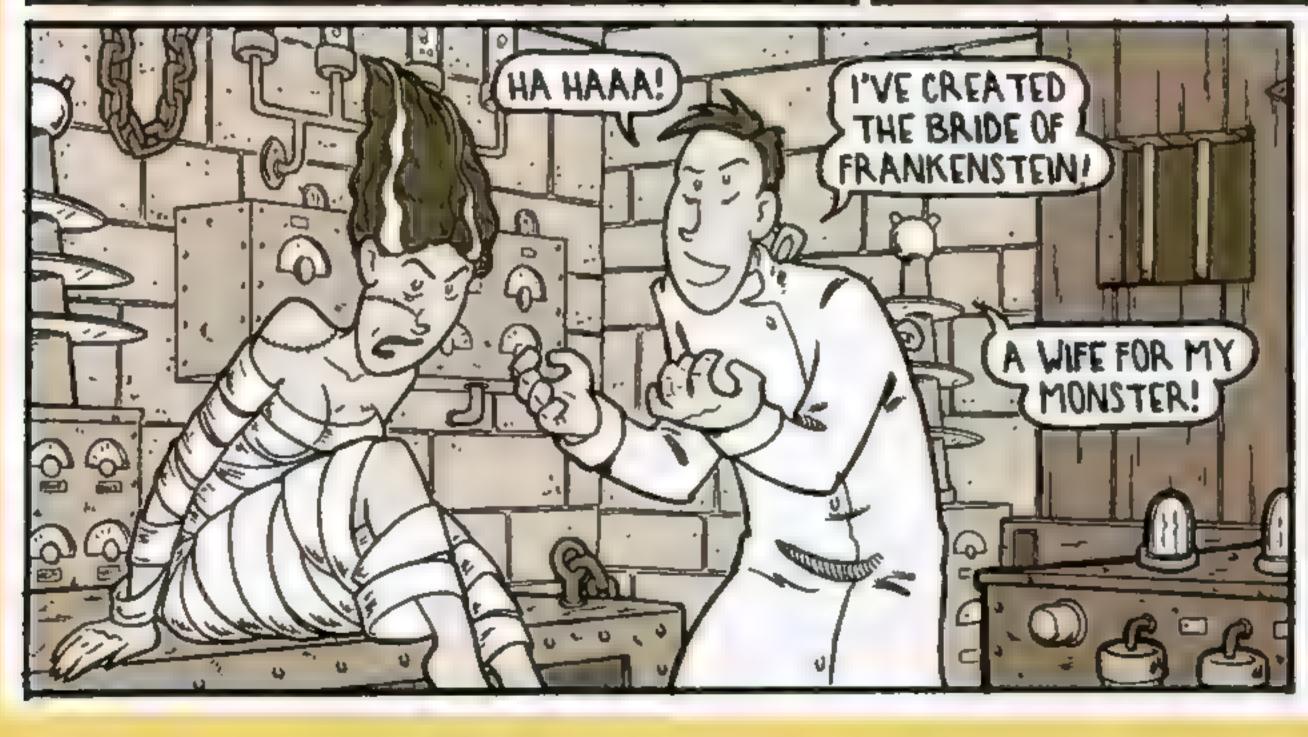






## JUST BELOW THE SURFACE

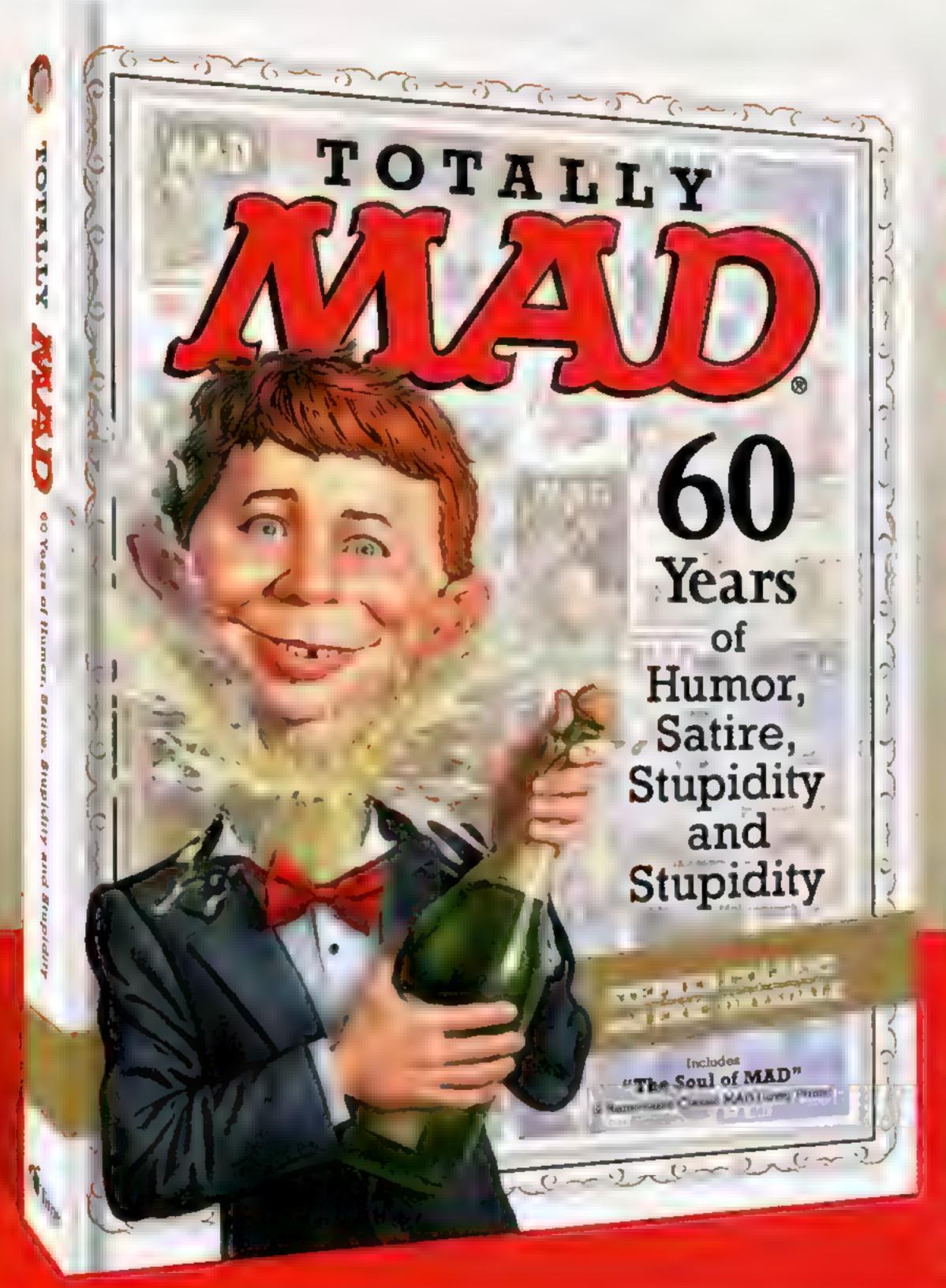






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Celebrating 60 years of high quality humor and stupidity. MAD's legendary artists and writers have brilliantly satirized politics, celebrities, sports, media, cultural trends, and more.



Includes such favorites as:

- Spy vs. Spy
- Al Jaffee's MAD Fold-in
- Sergio Aragonés' A MAD Look At...
- David Berg's The Lighter Side of...
- Outrageous artwork of
  Don Martin and Tom Bunk
- Movie and TV satires by
  Mort Drucker, Jack Davis and
  Tom Richmond
- The MAD Strip Club
- The Fundalini Pages
- And much more

Absolutely everyone should buy this book. No exceptions will be tolerated!

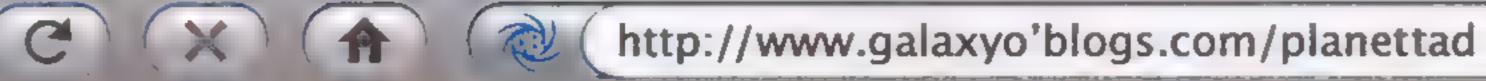


### SPECIAL BONUS

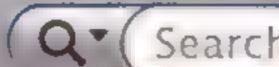
On sale October 30. Order today at your favorite online retailer.



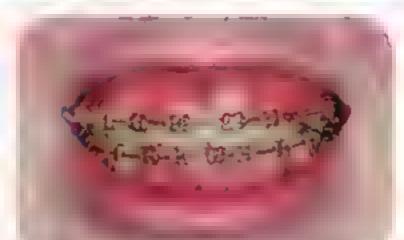












ABOUT ME »NAME: TAD »AGE: 28 HALF-YEARS »HEIGHT: 6'1" (MARGIN OF ERROR +/- TWO FEET)

### December 1, 2012

At school yesterday, my math teacher told us that if you put an infinite number of monkeys at an infinite number of typewriters, sooner or later, one of them would type the complete works of William Shakespeare. Which is kind of amazing to think about. But it's weirder still to realize that there'd also be a monkey who'd type the complete works of William Shakespeare, but with exactly one typo. And a monkey who'd type this exact blog entry.



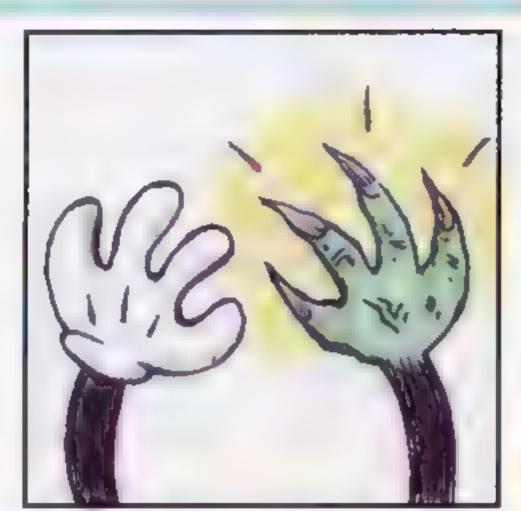
### December 2, 2012

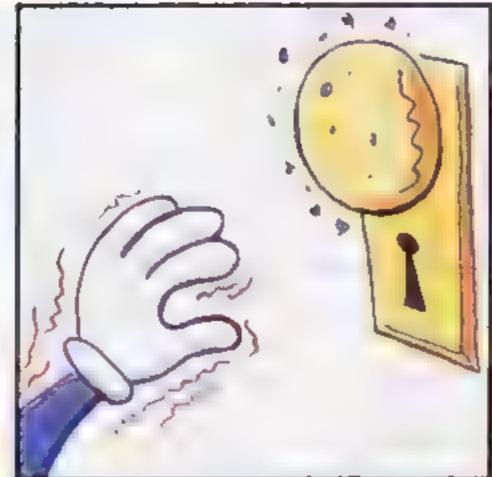
of If I were ever on the TV show "Chopped", and I knew I was going to lose, I think I'd just put all the food in a blender with some anchovies and some chocolate chips, just to watch the judges try and eat it.

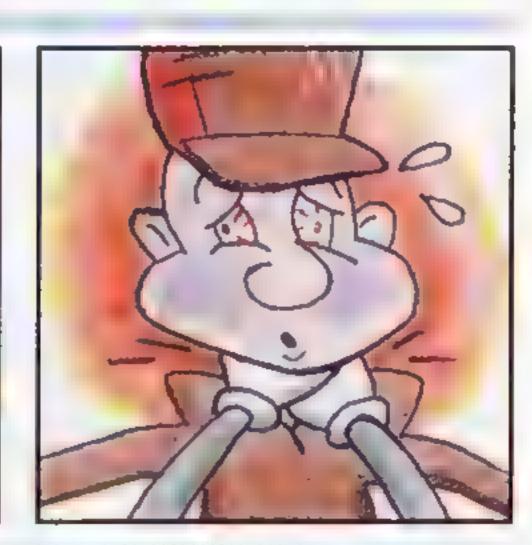
### December 3, 2012

It's weird that so many cartoon animals — from Mickey Mouse to Woody **Woodpecker to Bugs Bunny** 

- all wear white gloves. Are their hands hideous claws? Are they severe germophobes? Or are they constantly committing murders together, and trying to avoid leaving fingerprints?







### **December 10, 2012**

So, tonight, my mom said that she might have a job opportunity for me. She said, "You know Mrs. Wagner? From down the street?" And I said, "Yeah..." And my mom said, "She needs a babysitter this Saturday night." And I said, "Isn't she a bit old to have a babysitter?" And my mom said, "You know what I mean. She needs someone to watch Kyle." Kyle's her son, who's eight. And my mom said, "They'll probably pay you a few bucks an hour." And I said, "Wait: I can get paid to watch other kids?" And my mom said, "Sure! It's a valuable service!" So I asked her if I can get paid for hanging out with my kid sister Sophie. And she said, "Absolutely not."

It was worth a try.

**December 11, 2012** 

understand the phrase "fight fire with fire". It seems like that's just a recipe for tons and tons of fire.

### December 12, 2012 I think that a good way to

punish pickpockets is, instead of sentencing them to jail, just force them to wear tap shoes all the time.



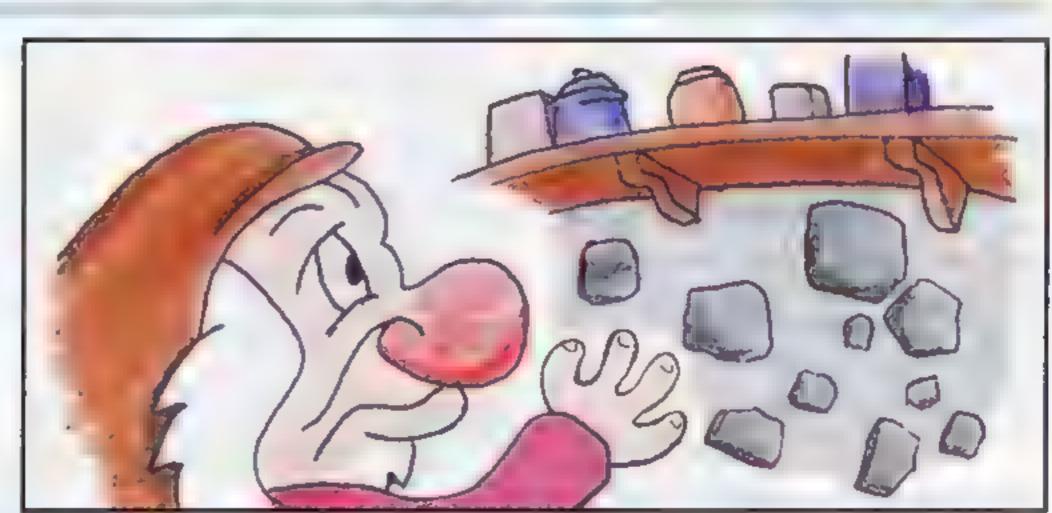
### December 13, 2012

I bet that, when elephants laugh so hard that water comes out of their nose, it's no big deal.



### December 14, 2012

V I've decided that I need to make a good impression so the Wagners recommend me to all of their friends, so I've been thinking about ways to entertain Kyle. I'm going to bring over some decks of cards, and Monopoly, and maybe a jigsaw puzzle, so we'll have plenty of options to have fun. I'm also going to bring a movie to show Kyle, so I've been going through my little sister's collection. You know what I'd never noticed about "Snow White"? There's a surprising amount of stuff on high shelves in a house filled with dwarves.



### December 15, 2012

9:44 p.m. So, I'm at the Wagners' house right now. (I'm on Mr. Wagner's computer, in his office — he said I could use it if I wanted to, so long as I didn't click on his browser history or open any files.)

Tonight went OK: I showed up at 7:30 with all the stuff to entertain Kyle, and Mrs. Wagner said, "I'm glad you brought a 500-piece puzzle, but: You know he's going to go to bed in an hour and a half, right?"

Anyway, it turned out, Kyle didn't want to play any board games or anything — he just wanted to watch some TV. So we hung out and watched the end of "Finding Nemo", and then it was his bedtime, so he brushed his teeth and put on his pajamas and went to bed.

(Speaking of "Finding Nemo", why is that movie called that? It kind of gives the ending away. They should've called it "Looking for Nemo, and Maybe He Can Be Found, Maybe He Can't, Maybe Nemo Is Just Gone Forever, Let's All Find Out Together".)

So, now I'm just hanging out, waiting for the Wagners to come home. They even said I could eat a popsicle from the freezer! This is the easiest money I've ever made!

### December 15, 2012

9/10:04 p.m.

If anyone out there knows how to get a grape popsicle stain out of a white couch, can you email me right away?

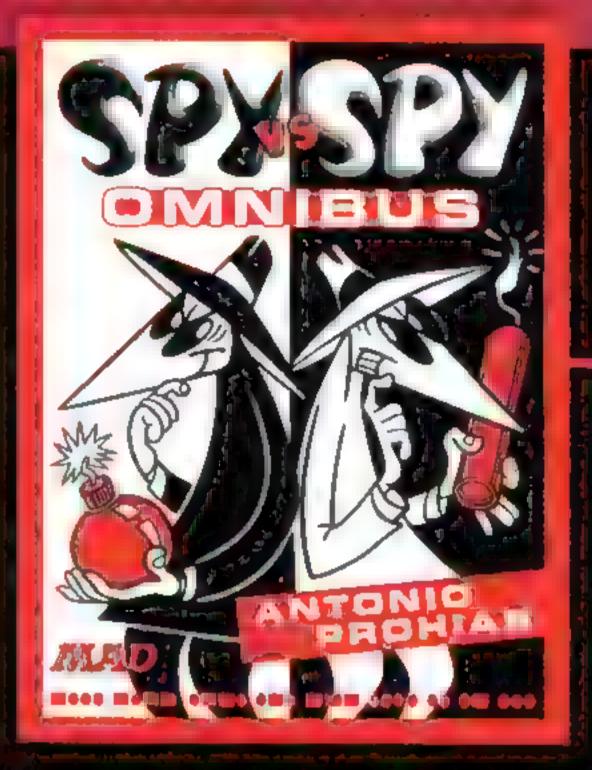
### December 16, 2012

I don't even want to get into it, but let's just say: I have managed to wind up deeply in debt as a result of babysitting. And I need to make a lot of money now. And I will not be able to make it back by babysitting for the Wagners.

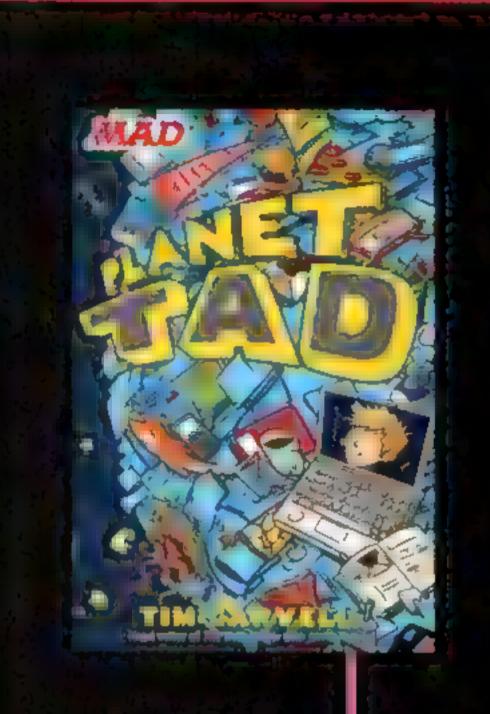


THIS HULLUS SELSUN, GIVE THE GIFT THAT WILL KEEP ON GIVING

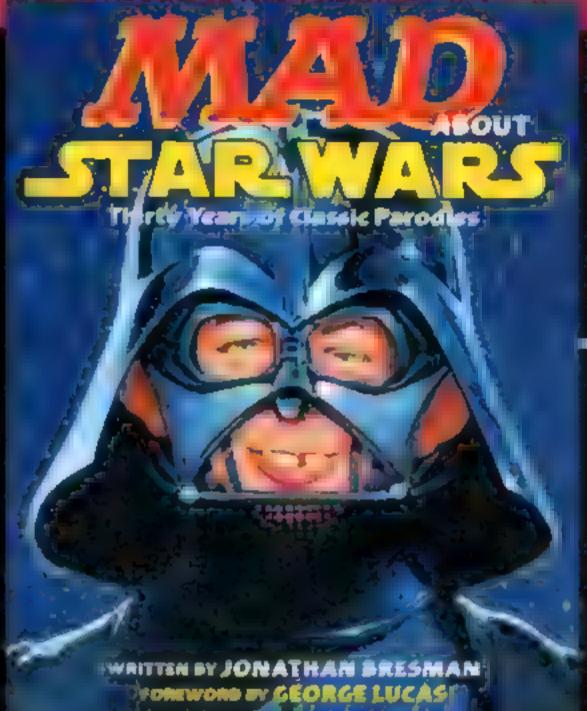
(A BAD IMPRESSION)!



A four-volume set! Includes every Antonio Prohias Over 400 Al Jaffee classics! Spy vs. Spy adventure! Includes a brand-new All reproduced in their Fold-In created by Al Jaffee full, original size for the especially for this collection! first time ever!

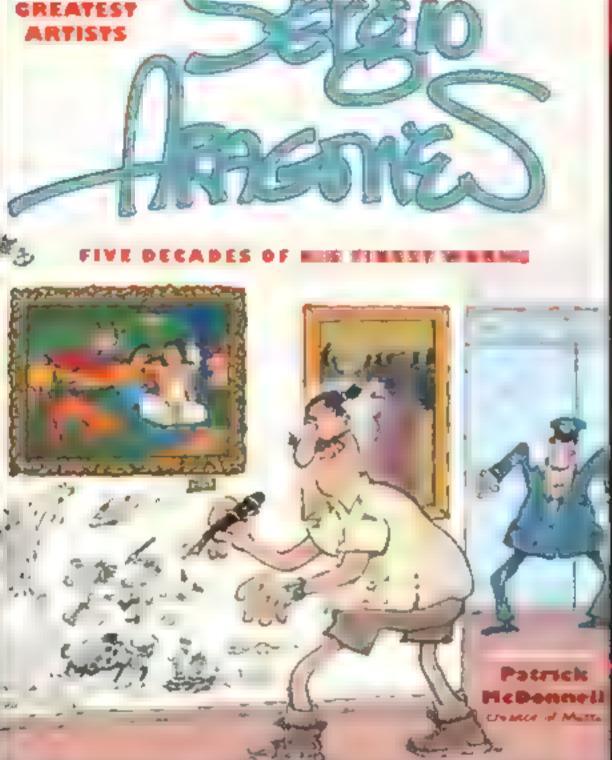


239 pages of all-new adventures! From the head writer of The Daily Show with Jon Stewart!



Perfect for fans of MAD on Cartoon Network!

Includes a foreword by George Lucas!



ning and make defined

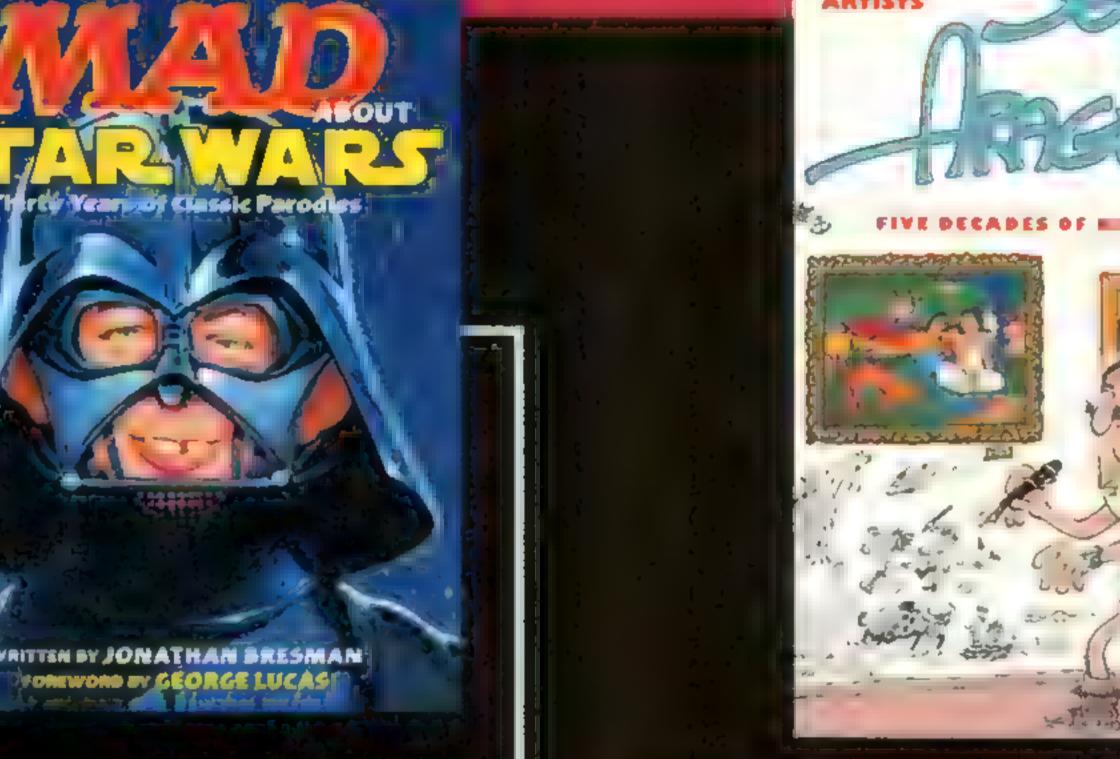
includes many of Mort's greatest movie satires plus essays by Michael J. Fox, Steven Spielberg, George Lucas,

Includes new, original, never-before-seen Sergio art! Plus an 18"x24" pull-out poster featuring 500 of Sergio's favorite marginals!

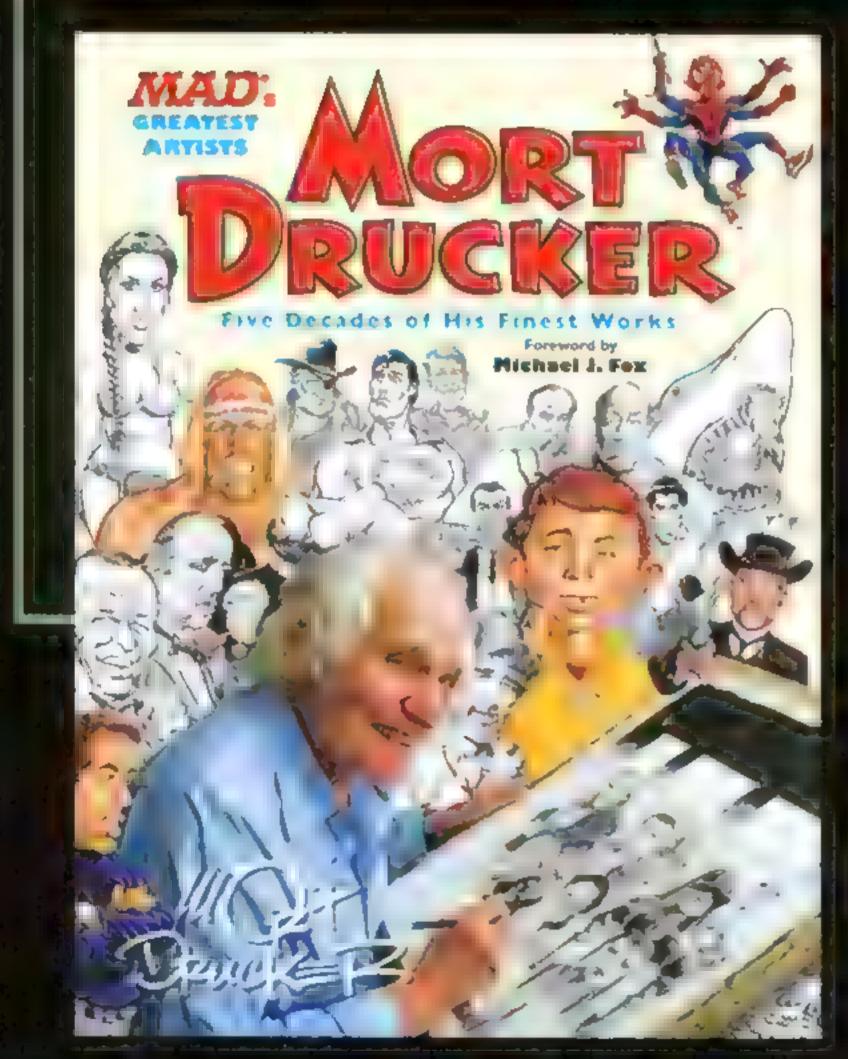
Special digest size! Includes 65 explosive adventures by Peter Kuper!

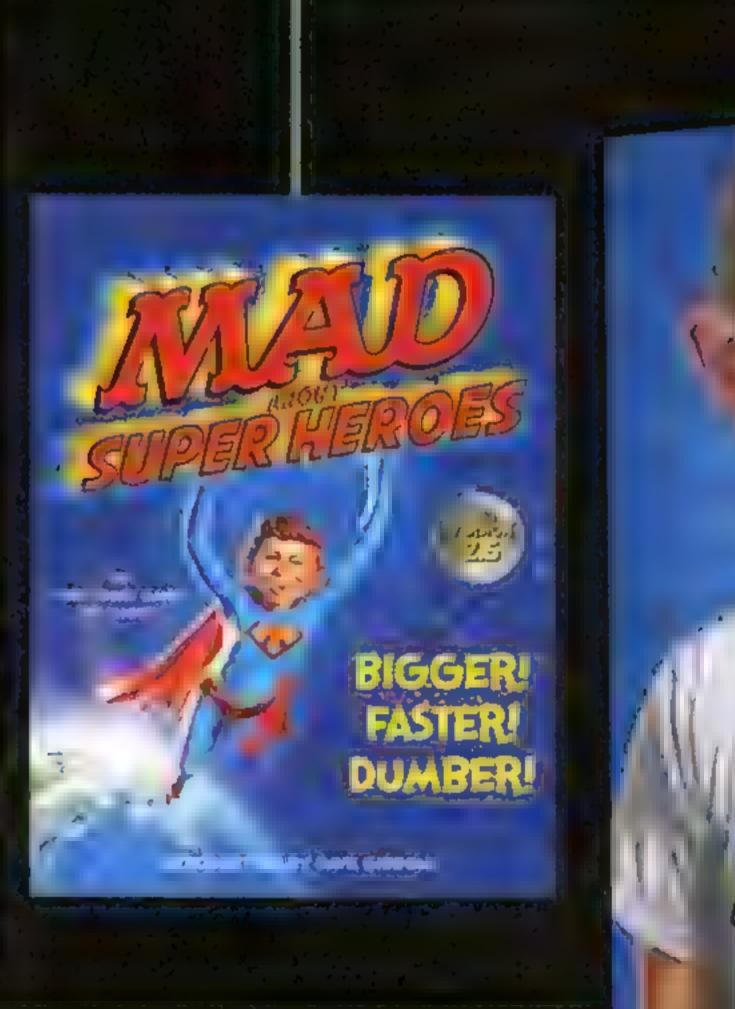
Includes every Spy vs. Spy adventure from 1987-2007!

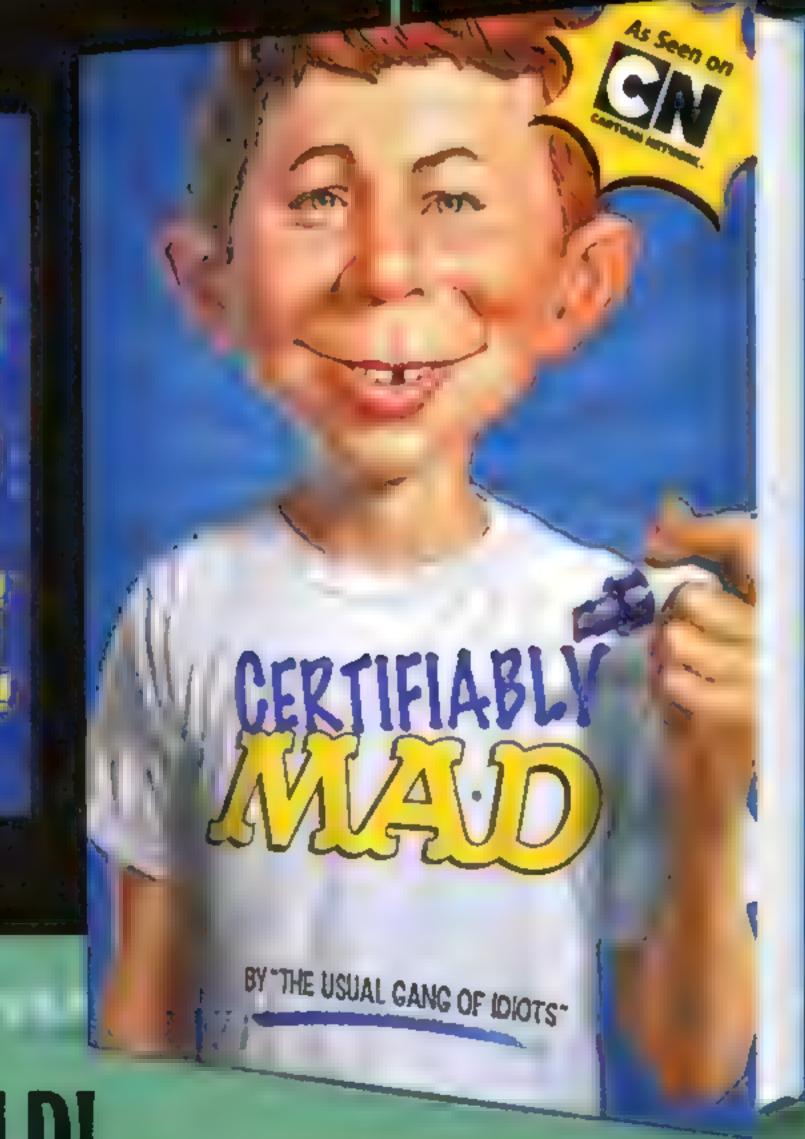
Available exclusively at Barnes & Noble



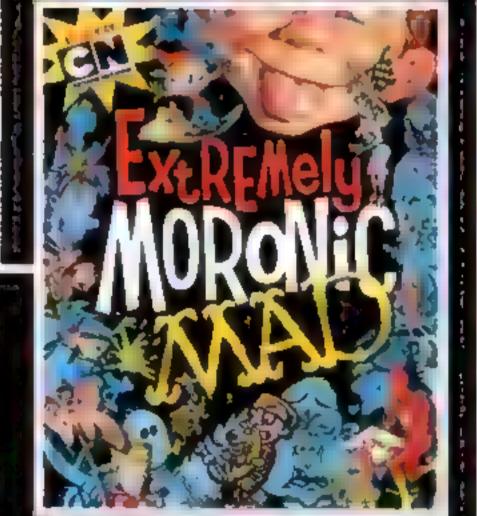
J.J. Abrams, Frank Darabont and others! Also a classic, vintage pull-out poster!

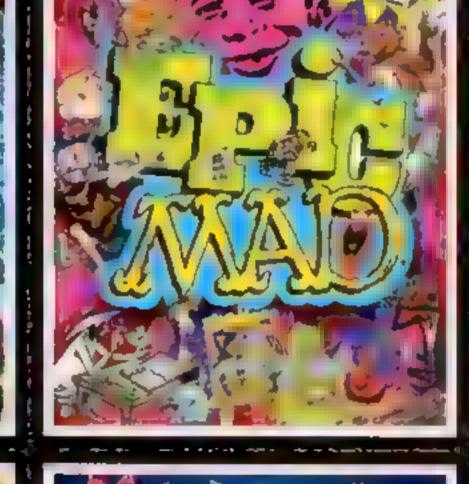


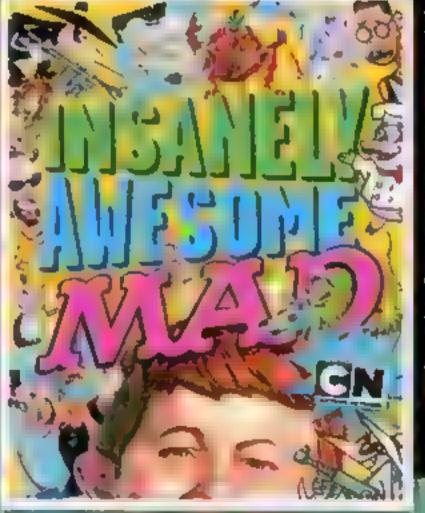


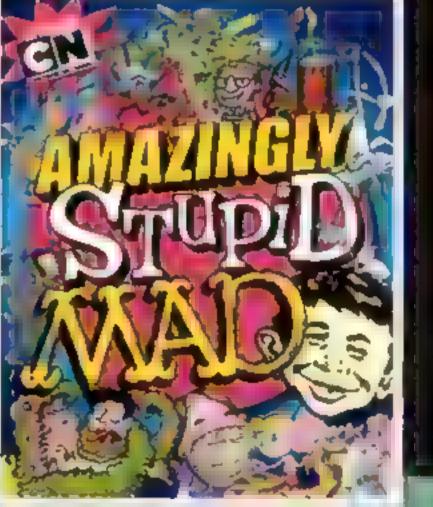








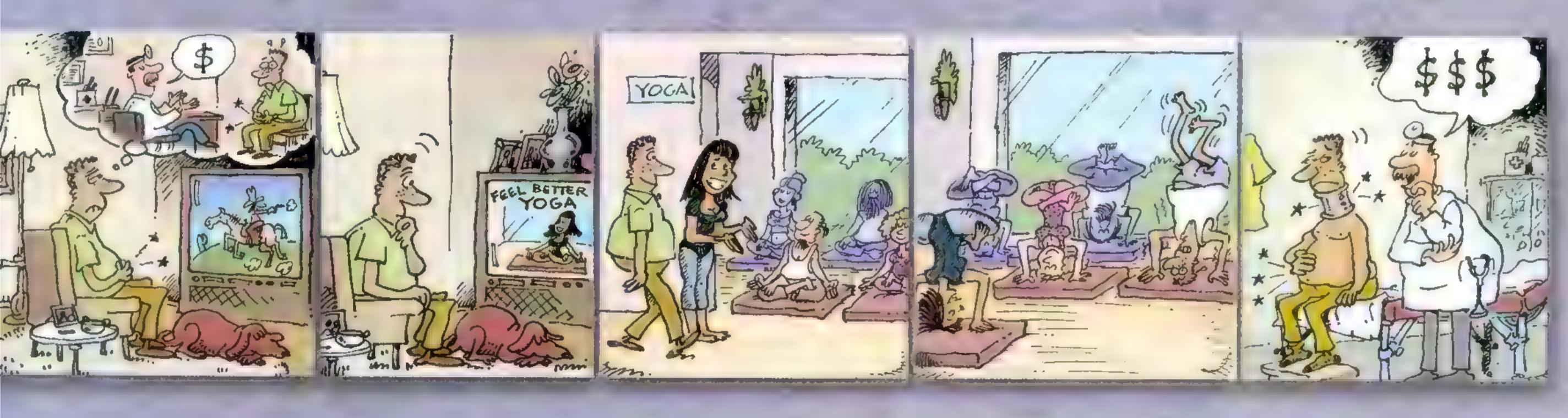




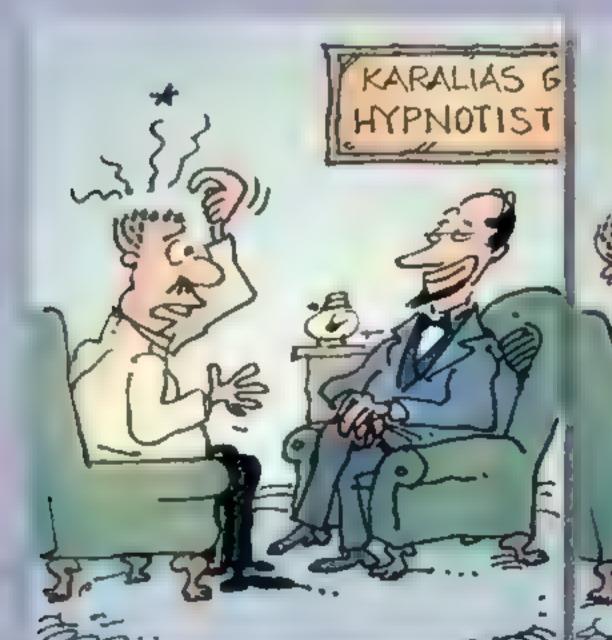
WHEREVER MEDIOCRE BOOKS ARE SOLD!

# REEN AMAD LOOK AT ALTERNATIVE MEDICI







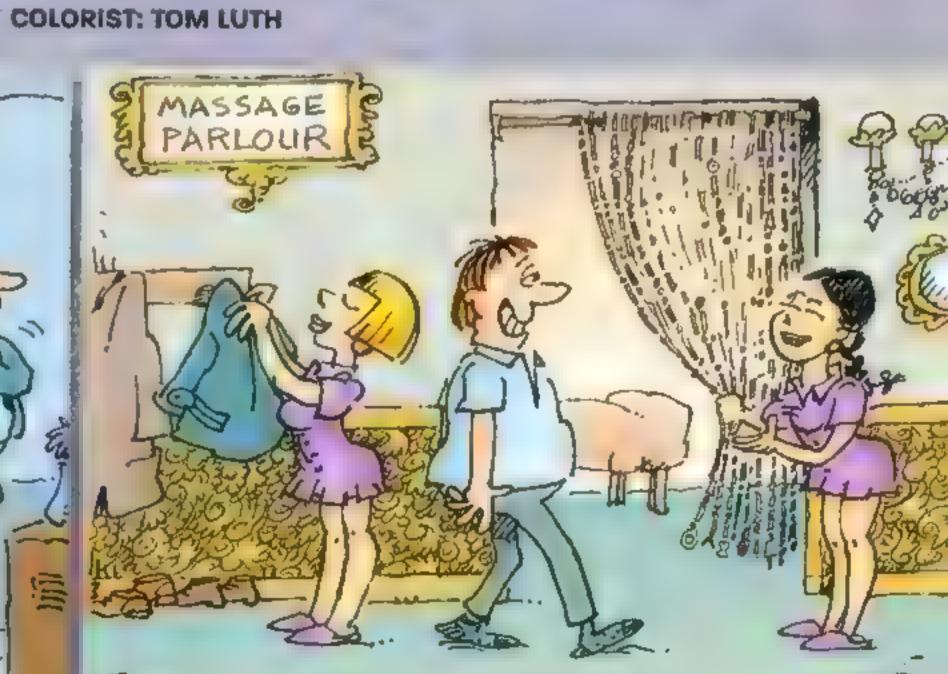




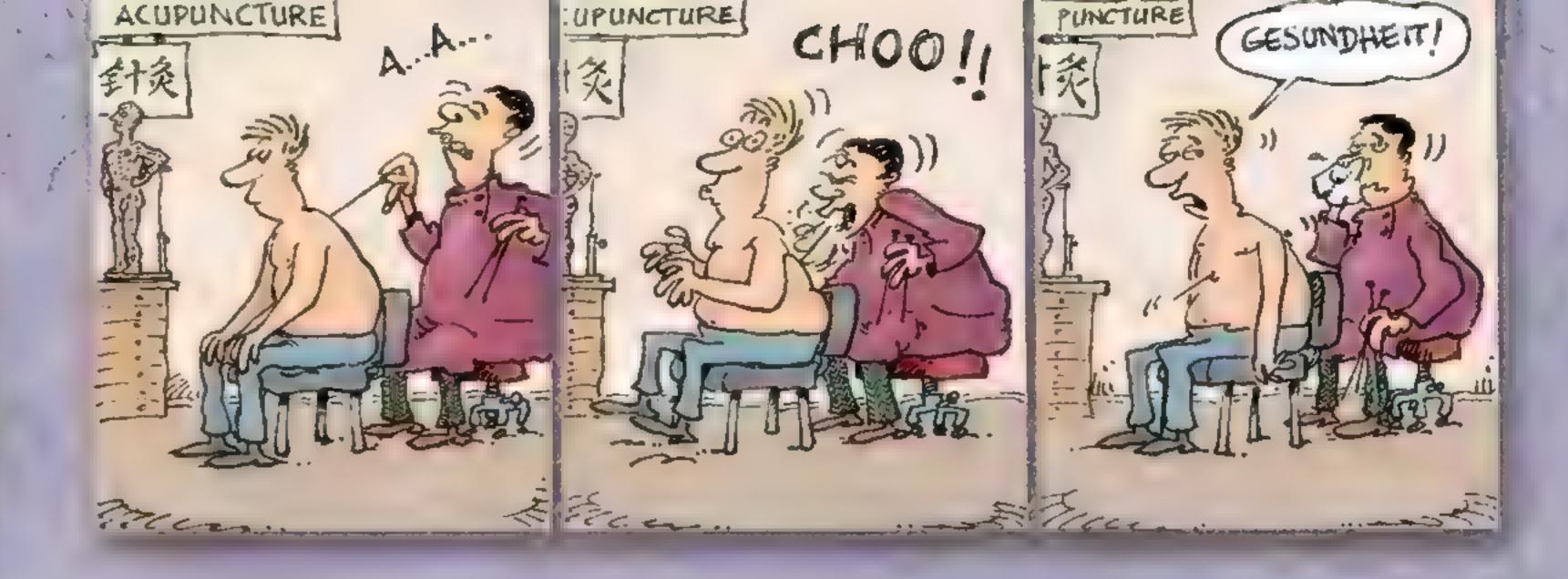




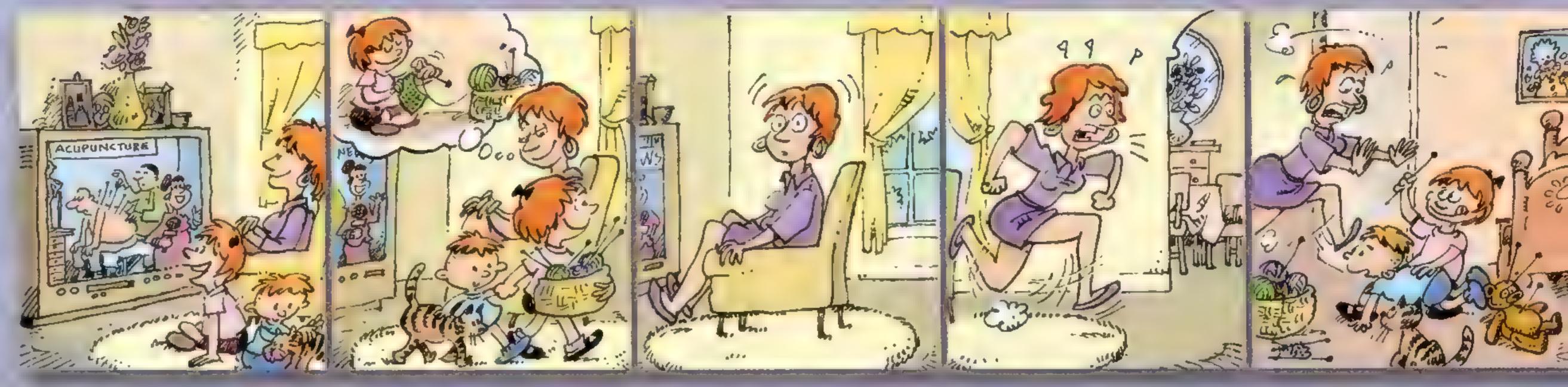


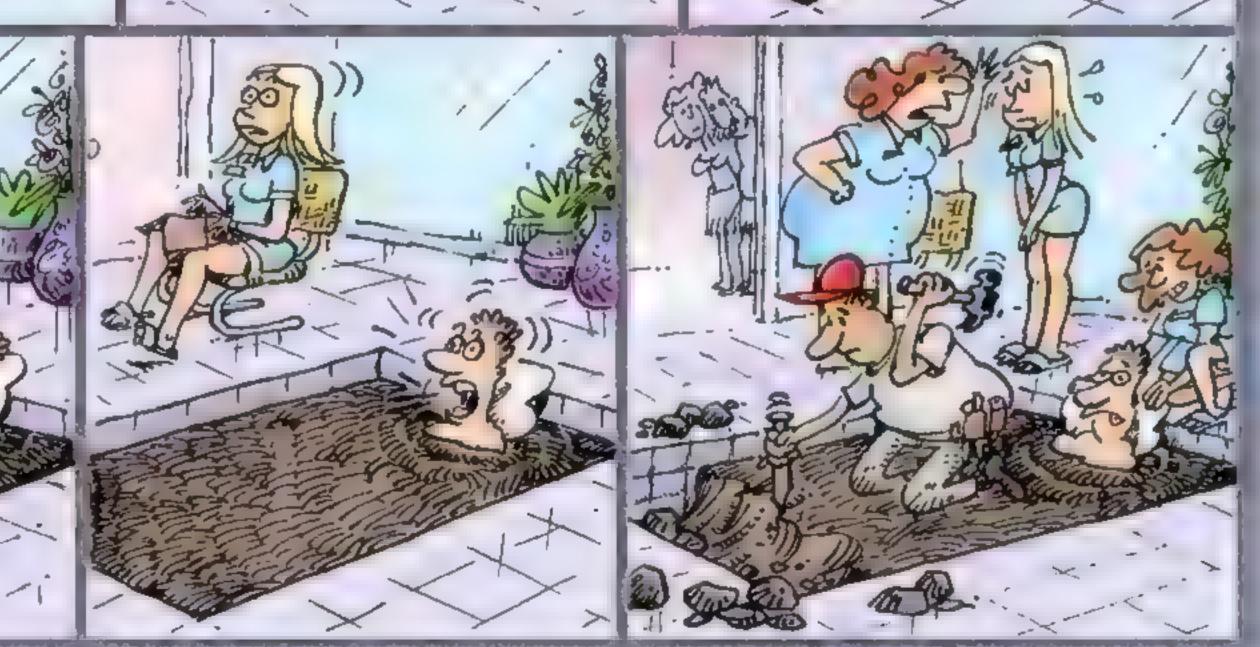


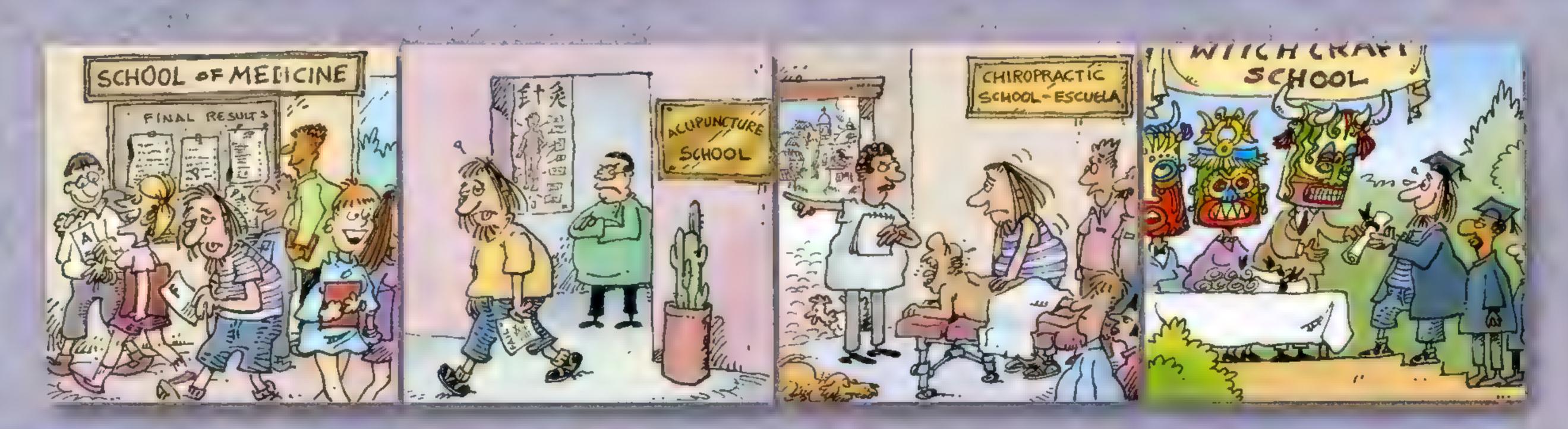


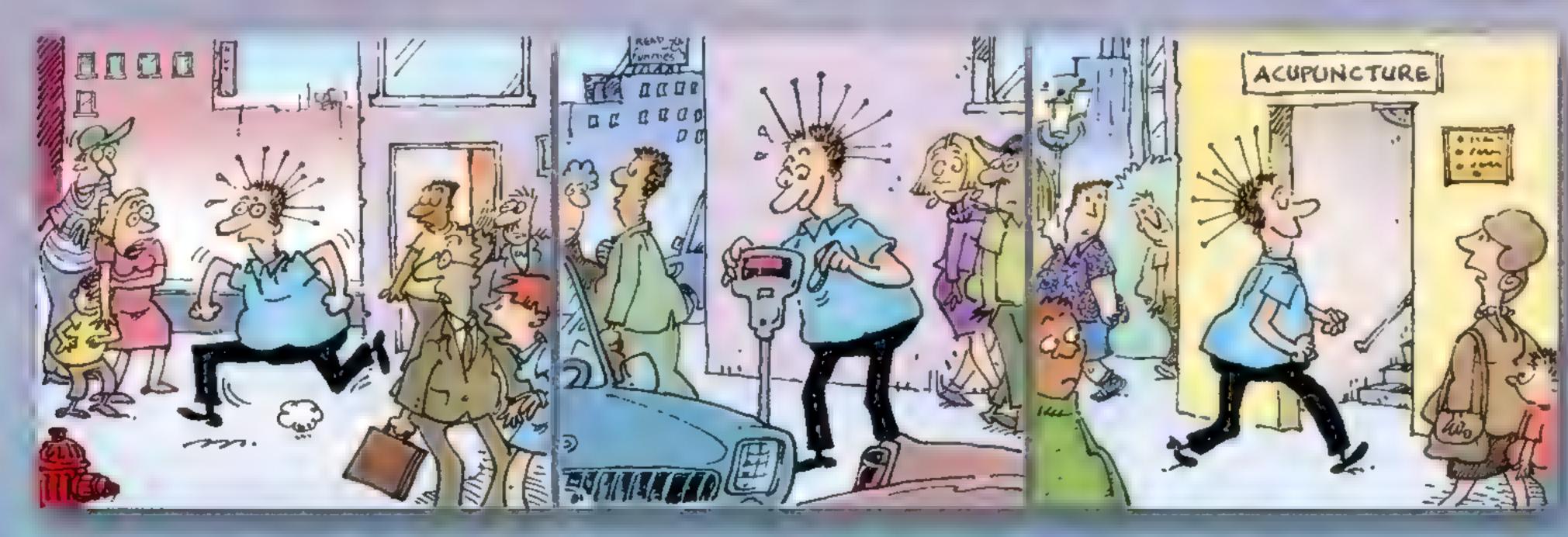




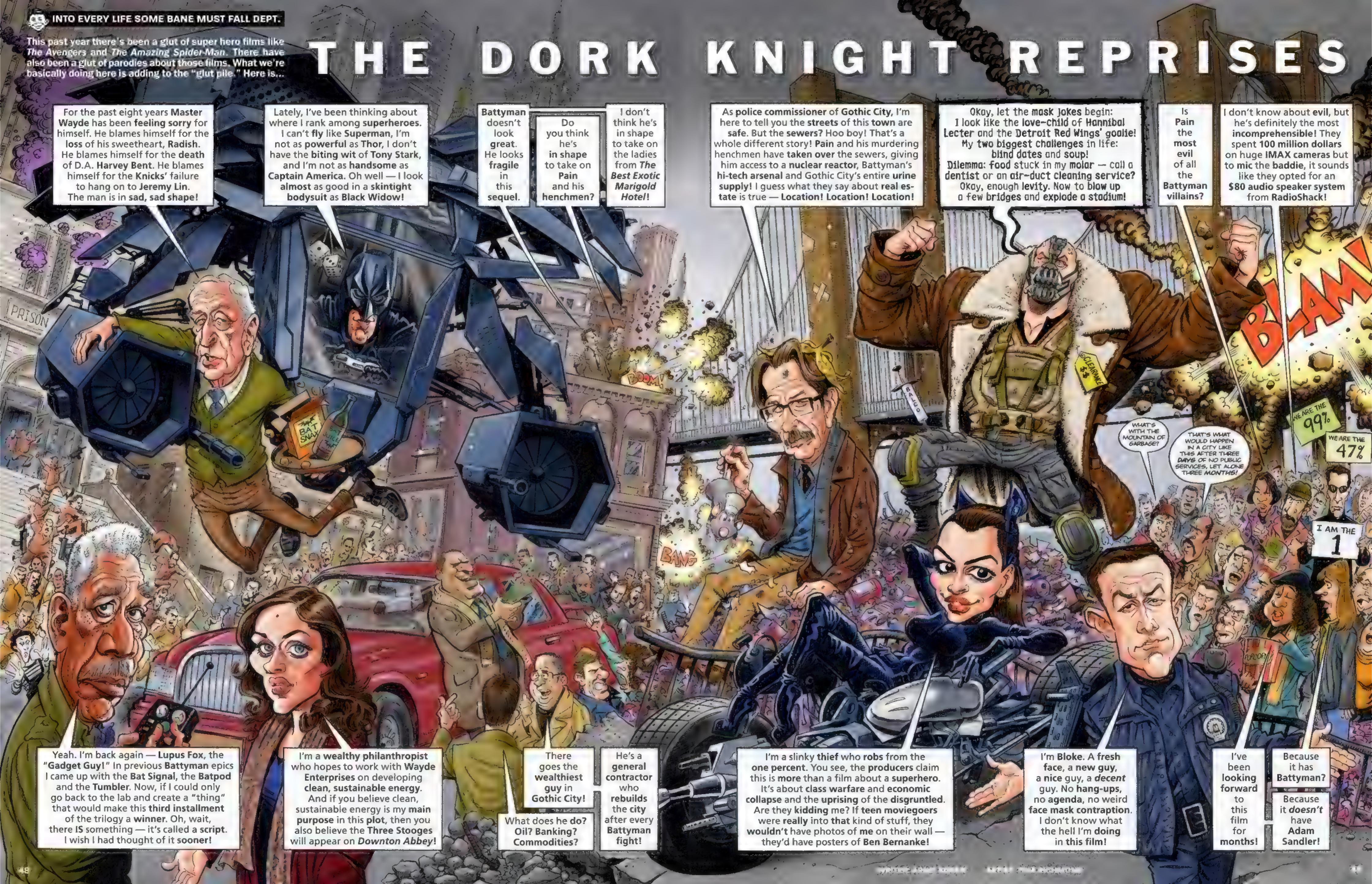


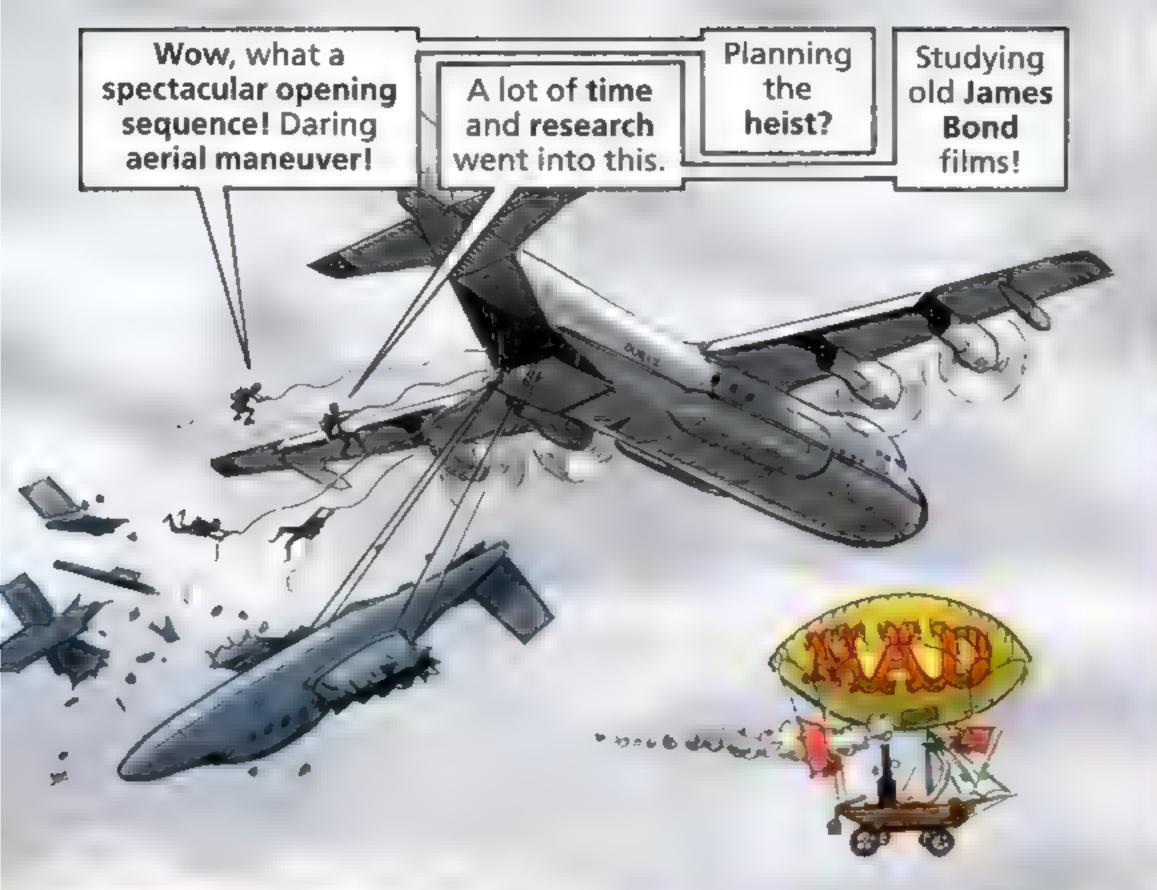






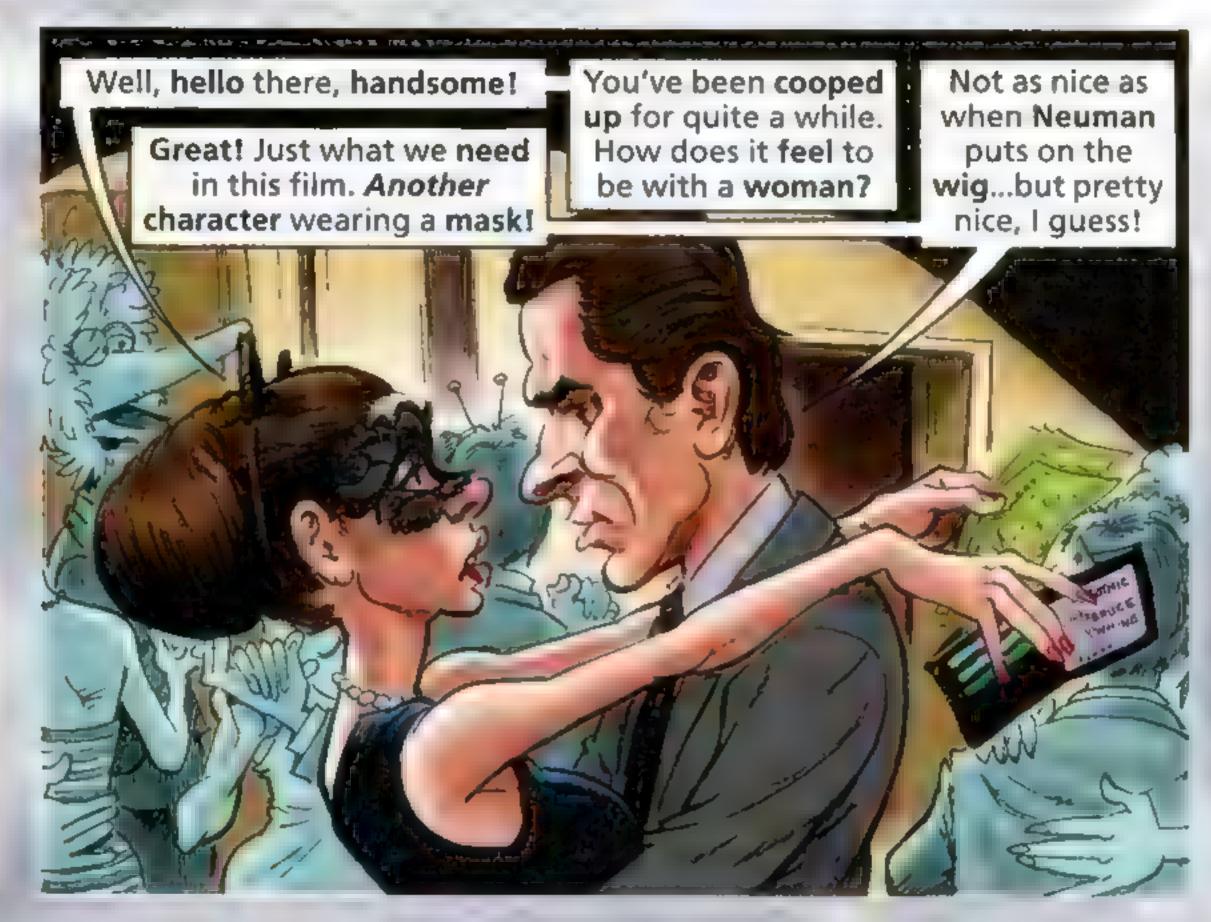


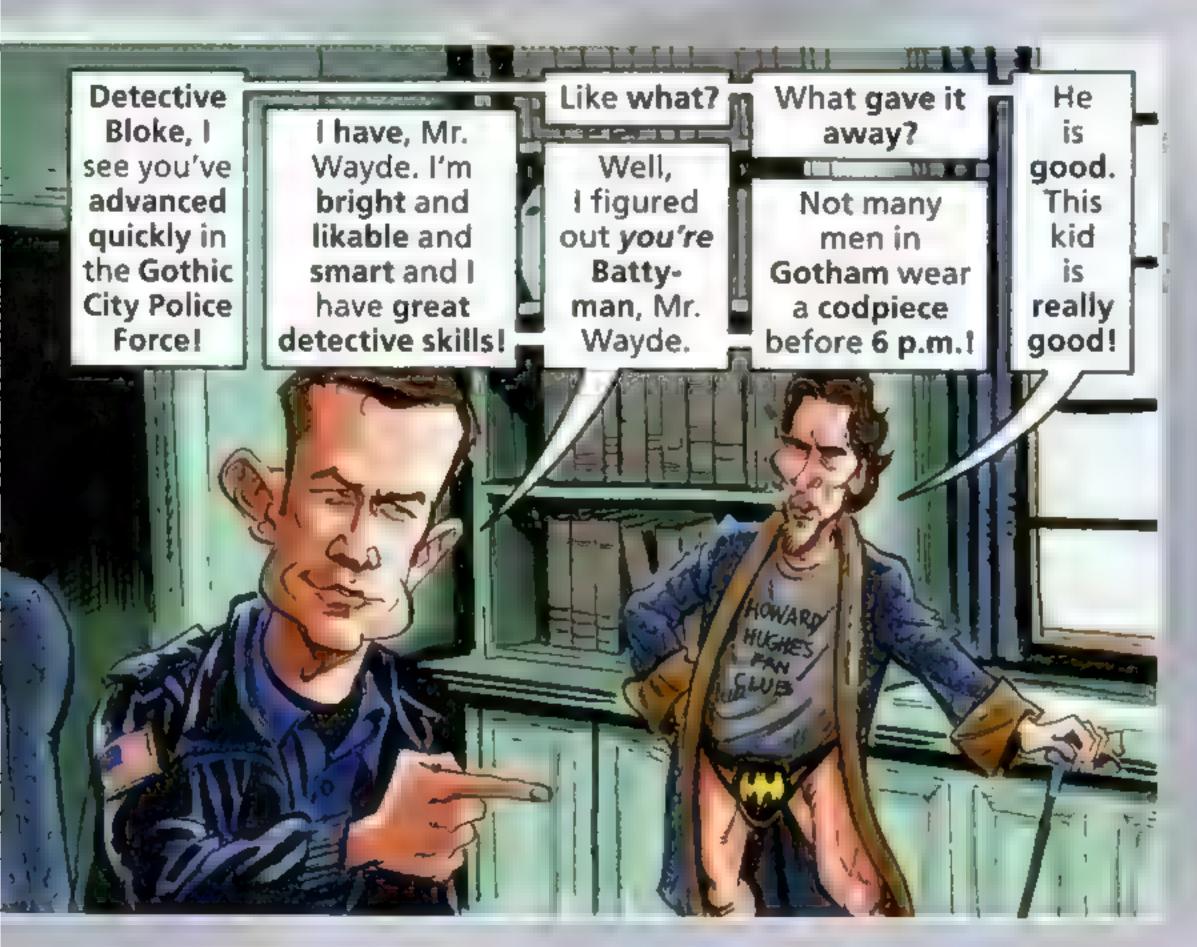


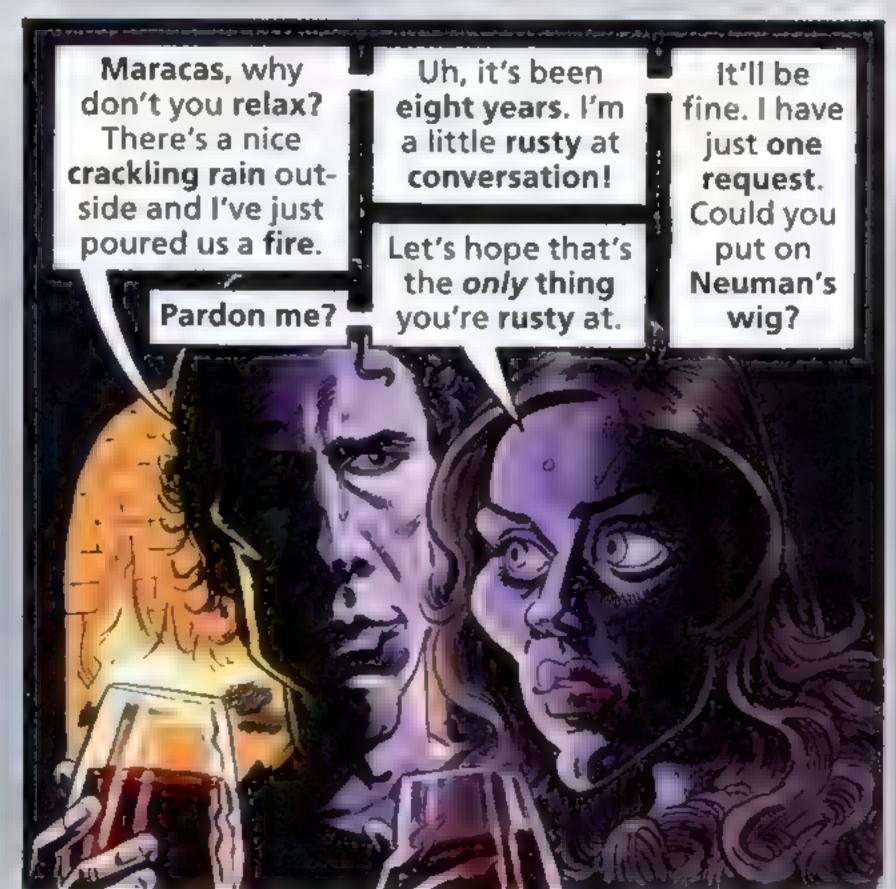












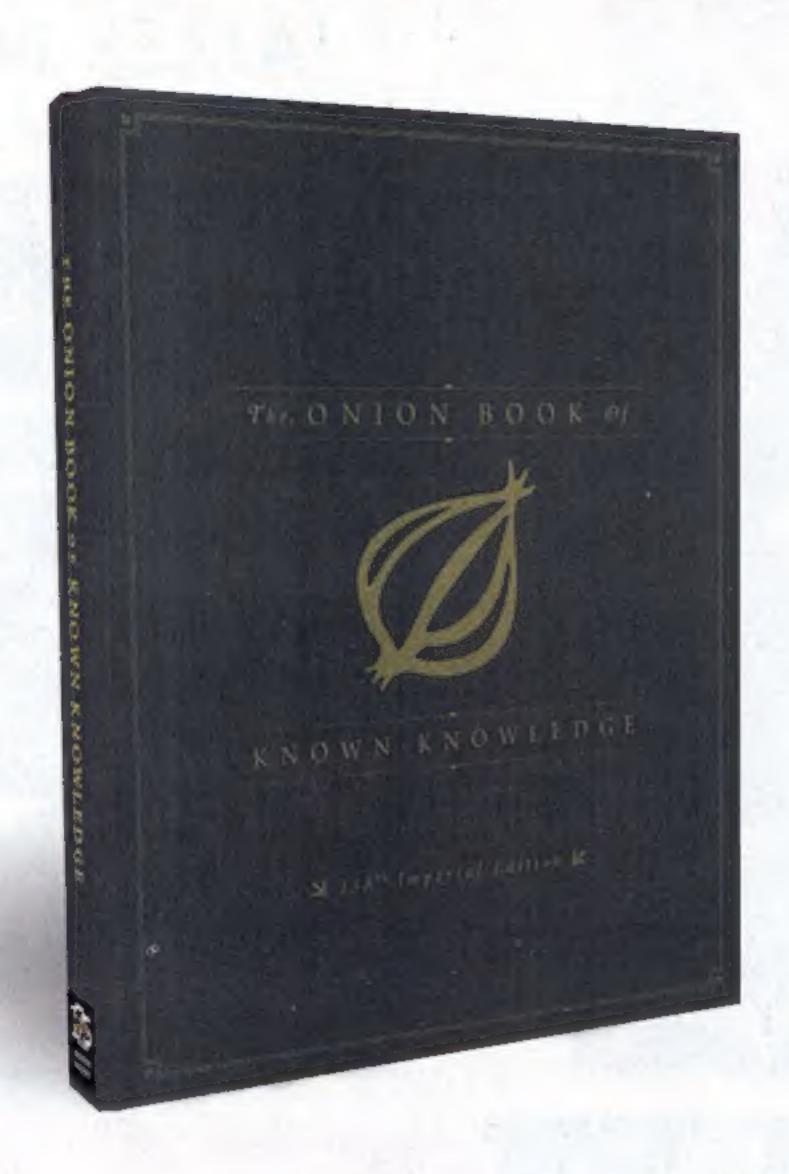








## THE PERFECT GIFT FOR AN ENCYCLOPEDOPHILE



AVAILABLE NOW K





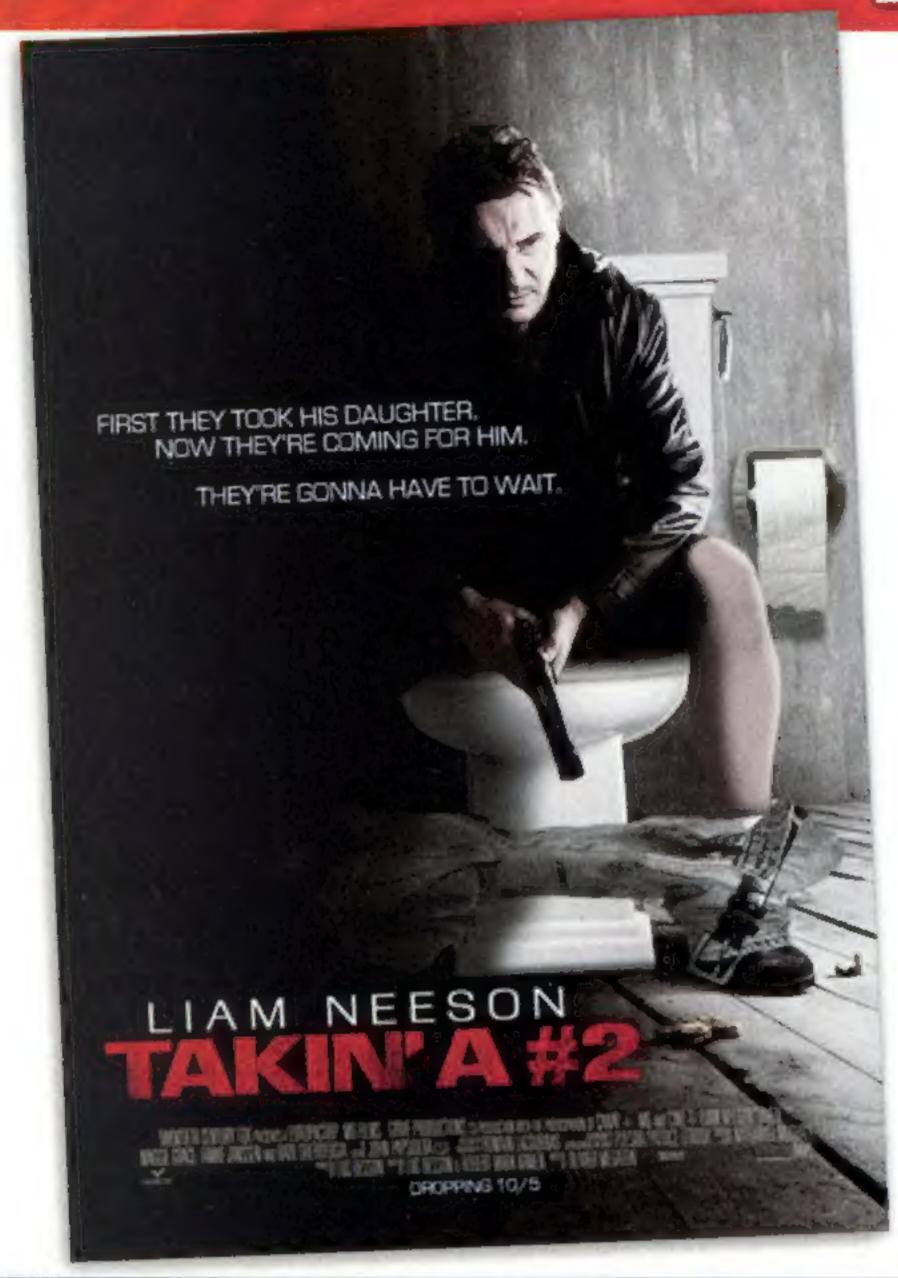


THE ONION BOOK OF KNOWN KNOWLEDGE

A DEFINITIVE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EXISTING INFORMATION

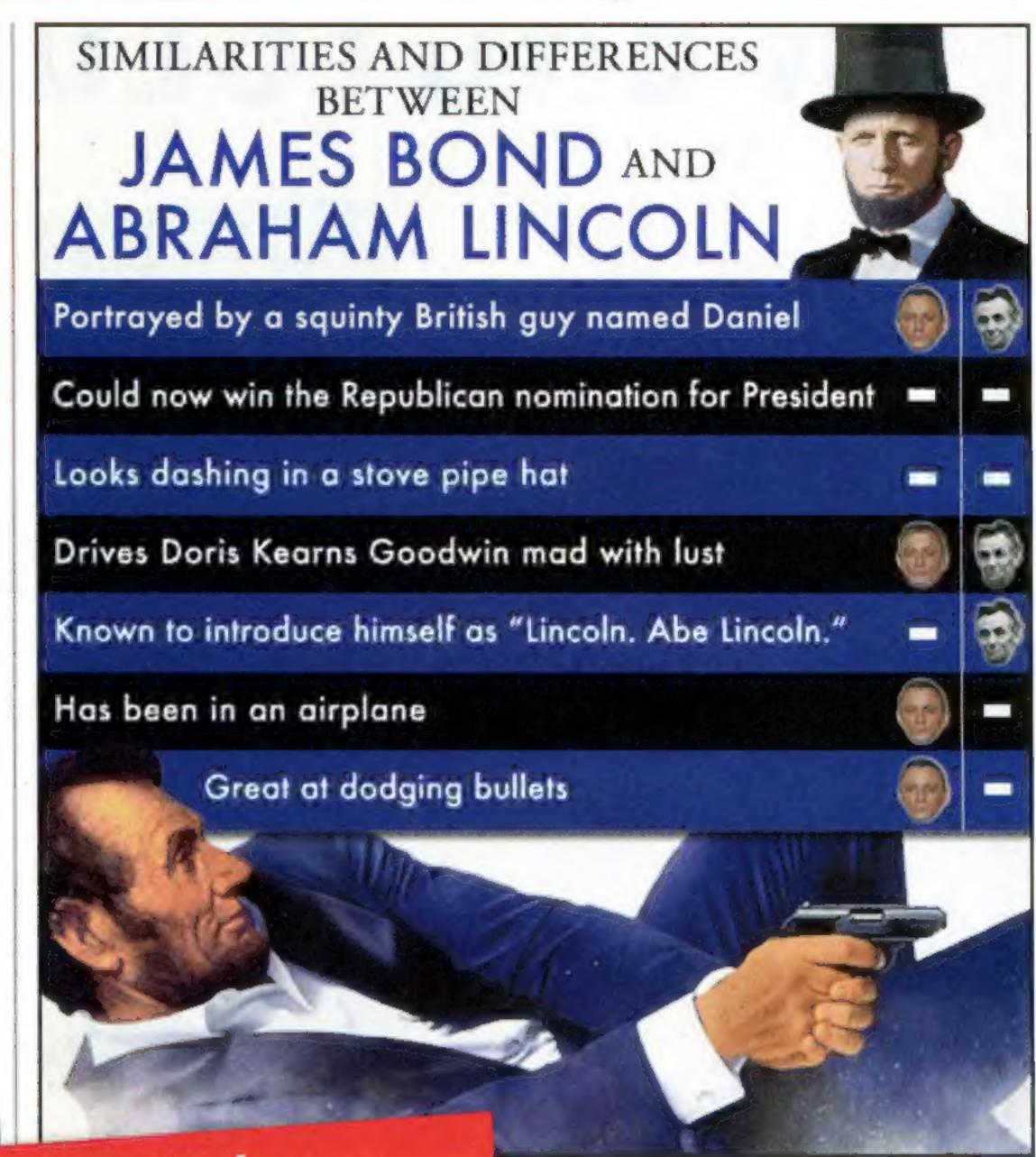
Is your computer running frustratingly slow? Maybe it's the fact that you're too cheap to spring for anything but dial-up service. Or maybe the problem is viruses and cookies from all the sick sites you visit. (Yes, we mean you, Caldwell! We beg you to get the treatment you so obviously need!) Either way, if you haven't visited the MAD blog recently, we're here to help. Here's...

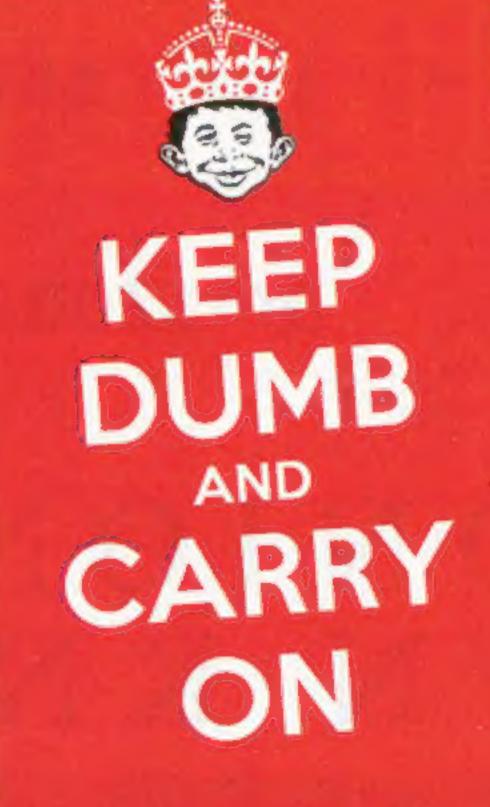
### The Best of The Idiotical

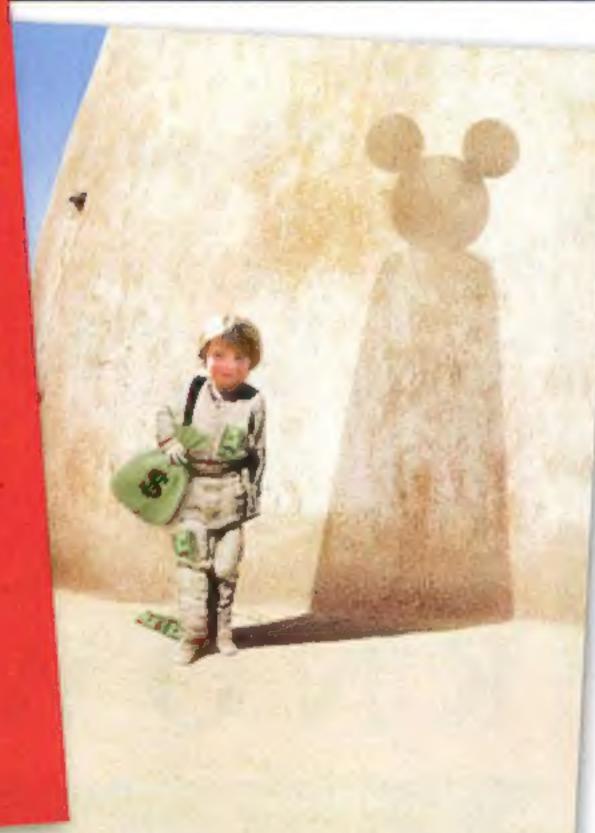




- Baumgartner also now holds the record for most times a grown man has wet himself in a four-minute period
- The 0.0008-inch-thick material used to make his balloon is still thicker than the bathroom tissue at New York's Port Authority bus terminal
- His only regret was that he couldn't talk his girlfriend into joining him, so he could become a member of the "24 Mile-High Club"
- Upon landing, he vomited profosely though not nearly as much as Lady Gaga did onstage last week
- His record was immediately broken by his intern, Gary, who stumbled out of the capsule while attempting to take a photo with his phone
- "Felix Baumgartner" isn't his real name he was born "Dash Eagleheart," but he thought that sounded much too flashy
- Sadly, mere seconds after landing, he was run over by Robbie Knievel, attempting to break the landspeed record in his rocket-car
- The event was sponsored by Red Bull an energy drink Baumgartner admitted he would "never risk trying"









New stupidity daily on The Idiotical at madmagazine.com!

### THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS SHOW ON TV



PREMIERES DEC 13
THURSDAYS 10<sup>P</sup>





